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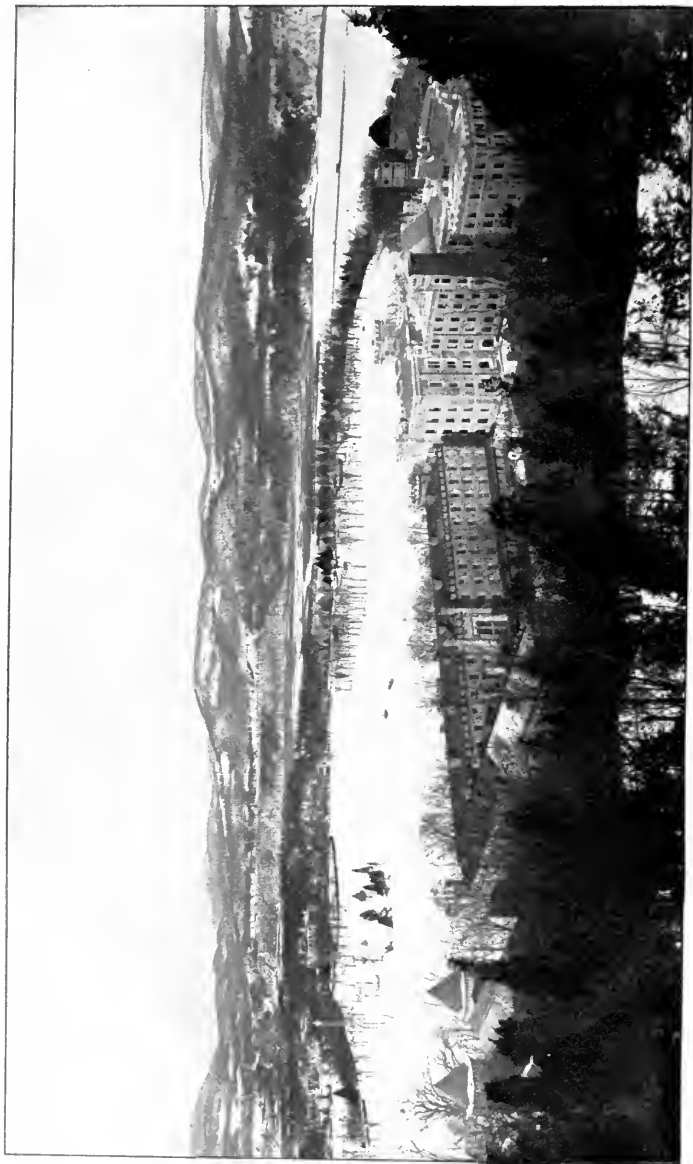
***HENRY E. CLAFLIN***

ABINGTON, MASS.



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BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF WEST POINT.

# CADET LIFE AT WEST POINT

BY

LIEUT. HUGH T. REED., U. S. A.

AUTHOR OF

*Military Science and Tactics, Etc.*

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**ILLUSTRATED.**

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CHICAGO:  
PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHOR.

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## **Dedicated**

*TO THE DEAR GIRLS WHO ADORE THE MILITARY, ONE OF  
WHOM HAVING PAID THE PENALTY OF HER AD-  
MIRATION, IS NOW MY SUPERIOR OFFICER.*



## PREFACE.

---

I believe it to be well established that the mental habits are fully as strong as the physical habits of man. That is, thought moves in grooves day after day and day after day as walks in life do. The habit of retrospectant thought fastened itself upon me several years ago, and the habit confined itself largely and almost irresistibly to my life at West Point. My reflections became almost realisms; I was to all intents and purposes oblivious of the intervening years; oblivious of accumulated griefs and sorrows, of successes and of contemporaneous ambitions—I was indeed a boy again, and at West Point, living over and over and over again all the scenes leading up to and creating my life at the Nation's Military School.

In one of these moods, it occurred to me, entirely for my own gratification, and possibly to dispossess myself of the habit of thinking upon the subject, to write a little sketch of those days. I became interested in the work, and the pages grew in number as memory served me with inspiration for my narrative, until I had at last completed what might be called a volume of reminiscences.

As an amusement for him, I read chapter after chapter, as it was written, to a favorite nephew,

and when the manuscript was written and in a temporary binding, I loaned it to this young relative, who, in turn, with my consent, loaned it to friends of his, and it was read by these youngsters and passed from hand to hand. I could not help but realize the interest that was taken by these young readers in what I had so carelessly and indifferently written, but at the same time, I should never have undertaken the publication of my notes if my nephew had not attended a military school and bombarded me with appeals to send him the old manuscript, so that his comrades might read about life at West Point.

The old manuscript wouldn't do, so I edited what I had written, re-wrote some of the pages, added a few lines here and there, and finally concluded to publish it without the least expectation that it will interest very many persons, or bring me any material reward.

I have tried to write it naturally and without any attempt at literary excellence, and beg most respectfully to offer it to the public as a grateful tribute to my happiest years.

For valuable data in the "table showing disposition of graduates," I am indebted to Captain Wilber E. Wilder, 4th Cavalry, Adjutant of the Military Academy, and to his efficient clerk, Mr. William Ward, who has had charge of Cadet Records for forty-five years.

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"MIGHT BE A CADET."





# CADET LIFE AT WEST POINT.

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## CHAPTER I.

### THE APPOINTMENT.

I WAS not more than eight years old when I first heard about West Point, and then I was told that it was Uncle Sam's Military School; that the young men there were called cadets; that they were soldiers, and that they wore pretty uniforms with brass buttons on them. The impression made upon me at the time was such that I never tired talking and asking questions about West Point. I soon learned to indicate the site on the map, and I longed to go there, that I might be a cadet and wear brass buttons. I talked about it so much that my good mother made me a coat generous with brass buttons. I called it my cadet coat, and wore it constantly. Ah! for the day I should be a big boy and be a real cadet. With a wooden gun I played soldier, and when the war broke out and the soldiers camped in our old fair grounds, I was in their camp at every opportunity. The camp was about half-way between our home farm and

father's store in town, and many is the time I have been scolded for being so much at the camp. My only regret at that time was that I was not old enough to enlist, for I loved to watch the drills and linger around the camp-fires, listening to stories of the war.

I learned a good deal from the soldiers about West Point. They told me that I could not go there until I was seventeen years old, and not then unless I was appointed as a cadet by my congressman. They also told me that I must be a good boy at school and study hard, for the reason that after securing the appointment I would have to pass a rigid examination at West Point before admission. This was bad news to me, because we farm boys never attended school longer than four or five months in a year. Fortunately, however, the family moved to "town" when I was fourteen years old. I was then assured that I would have my wish, and I never missed a day at school. I was so anxious to learn rapidly that I overtaxed my eyes, and was in a dark room for nearly a year. Still I did not give up hope, and when my eyesight permitted I returned to school again.

I found out that there could be only one cadet at a time at West Point from the same congressional district, and also that there was then a young man there from my district; still I had hopes of getting there myself before I got too old, that is, over twenty-one.

One day I saw by the paper that the Hon. G. W. J——n was at home on a short visit, and I knew that he was my congressman, hence I wanted to go at once to see him. I confided in my mother and obtained her permission to be absent from school that afternoon. So I saddled old John, my favorite horse, and rode six miles to Mr. J——n's house. He was at home, and was very kind to me. He asked my father's name, and also my name and age, and he made a note of my address, saying that he might write to me from Washington. He also said that there would be a vacancy at West Point, from his district, the next year in June, and that he would make the appointment soon; that I was the first young man to apply for the place, but if anyone who had served in the war applied for the cadetship within the next few weeks he would appoint him—that such a person could be just under twenty-four years of age. Nevertheless, if no old soldier applied he would appoint me, as he knew my father well. He then said that if he did appoint me I must be a good student the next year, and prepare for the examination at West Point. Upon my return home I did not talk about West Point any more, nor did I speak to any one except my mother about having seen Mr. J——n, and I had five brothers and a sister, too!

About two months after my visit to Mr. J——n, I received a letter from him, taking it myself

from the postoffice, but, alas, the writing was such that I could not read it, although there were but eight words in it, so I hastened with it to my mother, but she could not read it, either. Then as I must confide in another person, I decided to speak to my father, and ask him to read the letter, under promise that he would not talk about West Point with anyone except my mother and myself. He read the letter at once, and said that the writing was all right, but that the letter did not mean anything, as Mr. J——n had probably written the same to other boys. I did not believe this, and was surer than ever of obtaining the appointment. Many years have passed since then, but the words of that letter are still fresh in my memory. They are—

“Please inform me in reply your exact age.”

I wanted my father to write Mr. J——n in my behalf, but he declined to do so, saying that he did not want me to go to West Point. I then got him to promise not to write “that” to Mr. J——n, and I myself answered the letter by return mail.

About ten days after this I received another letter from the congressman, a great large one, in a long envelope, and all I could read of that was “I have recommended you;” but that was enough, as the appointment itself was enclosed and I could read it, and I was a happy boy. I ran home to show the appointment to my mother, and then to the store to show it to my father and also to get him to read the letter to me, which was as follows:

"I have recommended you, and enclose herewith your conditional appointment as a cadet to West Point, together with certain other papers from the War Department. I shall now expect you to prepare yourself for the examination next June, and I hope you will graduate with high honors, and that afterwards you will be loyal and useful to our country."

## THE APPOINTMENT.

War Department.\*

Washington, ..... 18..

Sir: You are hereby informed, that the President has conditionally selected you for appointment as Cadet of the United States Military Academy, at West Point, New York.

Should you desire the appointment, you will report in person to the Superintendent of the Academy on the ..... day of ....., 18.., for examination. If it be found that you possess the qualifications required by law and set forth in the circular† herewith, you will be admitted, with pay from date of admission, and your warrant of appointment will be delivered to you.

Should you be found deficient in studies at the semi-annual or annual examinations, or should your conduct reports be unfavorable, you will be discharged from the military service, unless otherwise recommended for special reasons by the Academic Board, but will receive an allowance for traveling expenses to your home.

Your attention is particularly directed to the accompanying circular, and it is to be distinctly understood that this notification confers upon you no right to enter the Military Academy unless your qualifications agree fully with its requirements, and unless you report for examination at the time specified.

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\*This is to be presented to the Adjutant of the Military Academy on arrival of the appointee, i. e., the candidate, at West Point.

†See Appendix, pages i to xii.

You are requested to immediately inform the Department of your acceptance or declination of the contemplated appointment upon the above conditions.

Very respectfully,

To.....  
 .....  
 .....  
 Secretary of War.

....., 18..

To the Honorable Secretary of War,\*

Washington, D. C.

Sir: I hereby respectfully acknowledge the receipt of your notification of my contemplated appointment as a Cadet of the United States Military Academy, with the appended circular, and inform you of my acceptance of the same upon the conditions named.

I certify, on honor, that I was born at ....., in the County of ....., State of ....., on the ..... day of ....., 18.., and that I have been an actual resident of the ..... Congressional District of ..... for ..... years and ..... months.

(Signature of appointee) .....

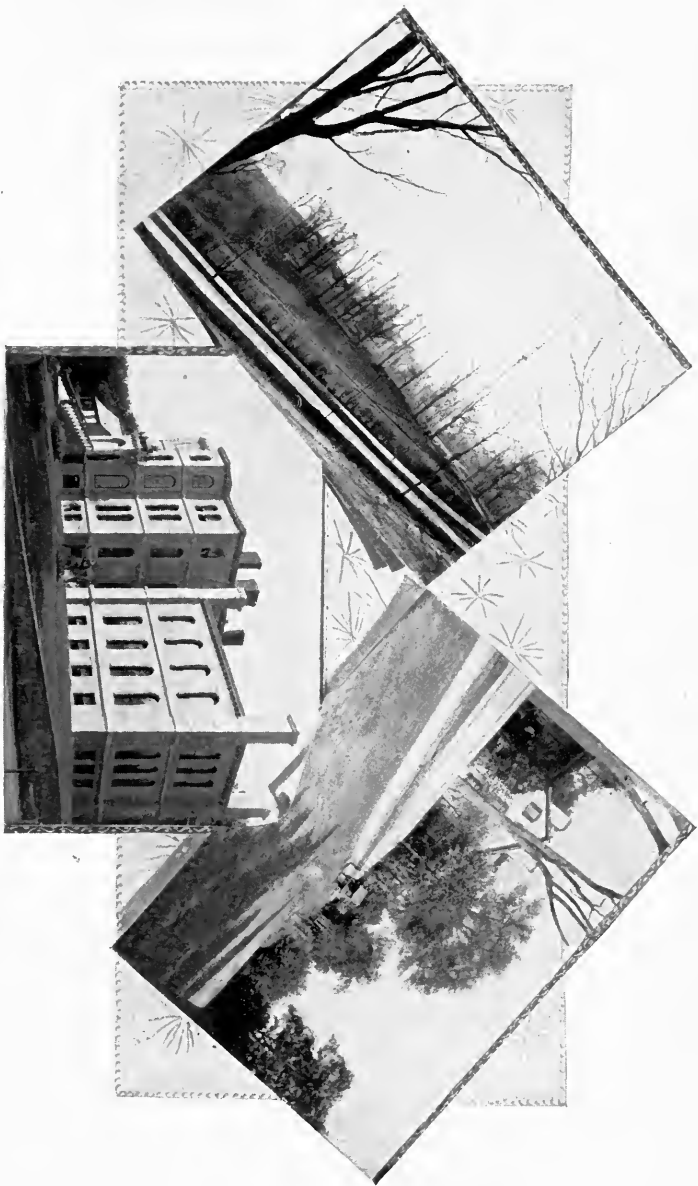
I hereby assent to the acceptance by my ..... of his conditional appointment as cadet in the military service, and he has my full permission to sign articles binding himself to serve the United States eight years, unless sooner discharged.

I also certify, on honor, that the above statements are true and correct in every particular.

(Signature of parent or guardian) .....

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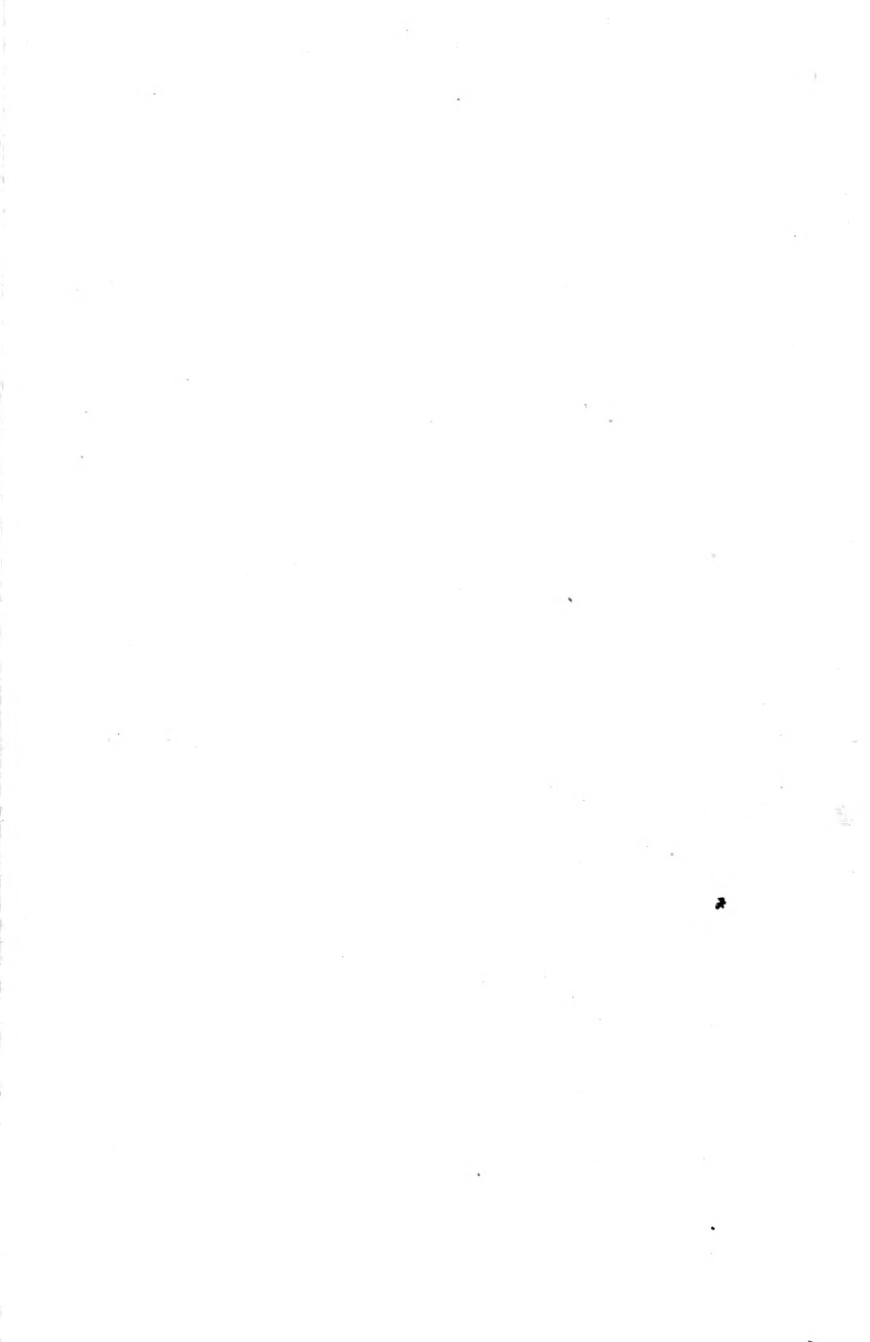
\*This is to be filled out and mailed to the Secretary of War soon after its receipt by the candidate.



TROPHY POINT.

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.

SUPERINTENDENT'S QUARTERS.





## CHAPTER II.

## THE MILITARY ACADEMY.

WEST POINT, the property of the United States, is in the state of New York, on the west bank of the Hudson River and about fifty miles north of New York City. The grounds comprise 2,500 acres, of which about 200 acres are a plain, some one hundred and eighty feet above the river, the balance being mountainous. A poet has happily said:

“Where proud and free the Hudson flows,  
Above the Highlands grand,  
And in its placid bosom shows  
The charms of Nature’s hand.”

General Washington often said that the National Government should maintain a Military Academy, and in his message to Congress in 1793 he recommended the founding of one at West Point, New York. Referring to this subject in 1796, he said:

“The institution of a military academy is also recommended by cogent reasons. However pacific the general policy of a nation may be, it ought never to be without an adequate stock of military knowledge for emergencies. The first would impair the energy of its character and both hazard its safety and expose it to great evils when war

could not be avoided. Besides that, war might not often depend upon its own choice. In proportion as the observance of pacific maxims might exempt a nation from the necessity of practicing rules of military art, ought to be the case in preserving and transmitting, by proper establishments, the knowledge of that art. Whatever arguments may be drawn from particular examples, superficially received, a thorough examination of the subject will evince that the art of war is at once comprehensive and complicated, that it demands much previous study, and that the possession of it in its most approved and perfect state is of great moment to the security of a nation."

The result of this and other recommendations was that the United States Military Academy was founded by Act of Congress, approved March 16, 1802, and the Military Academy is practically all there is to West Point, and ever since then it has been maintained by annual appropriations of Congress. The expenditures\* on the buildings and grounds have already been more than \$4,000,000, and all for the prime object of educating professional soldiers. Up to October 1, 1896, 7,798 young men have been admitted to the Military Academy; 3,725, having failed, have been discharged; 332, including one from Venezuela, South America, receiving instruction under a joint reso-

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\*General George W. Cullum graduated at the Academy in 1833 and when he died he left about a quarter of a million dollars to the Academy and the Cullum Memorial Hall is now under constructi

lution of Congress, approved December 22, 1892, are now cadets, and the balance, 3,741, have been graduated.\* In speaking of the graduates the Hon. Charles S. Fairchild, of New York, has well said that "That roll, which, when told over, excites patriotic enthusiasm, and calls forth high emotion beyond that of the roll of any like institution in the world."

The Military Academy is governed by an Academic Board, composed of twelve members, eight of whom are professors holding life appointments as such, while the other four are army officers detailed for duty at the Academy.

#### THE ACADEMIC BOARD.

1. Superintendent.
2. Commandant of Cadets and Instructor of Tactics.
3. Professor of Natural and Experimental Philosophy.
4. Professor of Drawing.
5. Professor of Mathematics.
6. Professor of Chemistry, Mineralogy and Geology.
7. Professor of Modern Languages.
8. Professor of Law.
9. Professor of Civil and Military Engineering.

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\*See Appendix, "table showing disposition of candidates."

10. Professor of History, Geography and Ethics, who is also the Chaplain.

11. Instructor of Practical Military Engineering.

12. Instructor of Ordnance and Gunnery.

The senior assistant in each department of instruction shall be a member of the Academic Board or of a committee of it, for the purpose of examining cadets, arranging them in order of merit, and determining their proficiency or deficiency in every branch of study in that department; and the instructor of any section under examination or consideration shall be a member of the Academic Board or of a committee of it, for the purpose of examining the section and arranging it in order of merit.

All deliberations and decisions of the Academic Board and of its committees, and expressions of opinion and votes, individual or collective, of members thereof shall be confidential. The decisions of the Board are published in orders.

The following is a list of the members of the Academic Board and their assistants, as it stood on June 1, 1896, to wit:

SUPERINTENDENT.\*

Col. O. H. Ernst, Lieut.-Colonel, Corps of Engineers.

MILITARY STAFF.\*

Capt. Wilber E. Wilder, 4th Cavalry, adjutant of the Mili-

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\*These officers are usually changed every four years, part one year and part another.

tary Academy and of the post; recruiting officer; commanding band and detachment of field music.

Capt. William F. Spurgin, 21st Infantry, treasurer of the Military Academy, and quartermaster and commissary of cadets.

Capt. John B. Bellinger, Assistant Quartermaster, U. S. A., quartermaster of the Military Academy and of the post; disbursing officer.

First Lieut. Barrington K. West, 6th Cavalry, commissary and treasurer; in charge of post exchange.

First Lieut. William Wiegel, 11th Infantry, assistant to the quartermaster and officer of police.

Maj. George H. Torney, Surgeon, U. S. A., surgeon.

Capt. Charles F. Mason, Assistant Surgeon, U. S. A.

Capt. Charles Willcox, Assistant Surgeon, U. S. A.

#### ACADEMIC STAFF.

Professors whose service at the Academy, as professor, exceeds 10 years, have the assimilated rank of colonel, and all other professors the assimilated rank of lieutenant-colonel.

#### DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL AND EXPERIMENTAL PHILOSOPHY.

Peter S. Michie, professor (Feb. 14, 1871).

Capt. William B. Gordon, Ordnance Dept., assistant professor.\*

First Lieut. Samuel E. Allen, 5th Artillery; First Lieut. Lucien G. Berry, 4th Artillery, instructors.\*

First Lieut. Samuel D. Freeman, 10th Cavalry, in charge of Observatory and astronomical observations.\*

#### DEPARTMENT OF DRAWING.

Charles W. Larned, professor (July 25, 1876).

First Lieut. Austin H. Brown, 4th Infantry, assistant professor.\*

Second Lieut. Charles B. Hagadorn, 23d Infantry; Second Lieut. Horace M. Reeve, 3d Infantry, instructors.\*

Edgar W. Bass, professor (April 17, 1878).

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\*These officers are usually changed every four years, part one year and part another.

## DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS.

†Wright P. Edgerton, associate professor (July 1, 1893).

First Lieut. Daniel B. Devore, 23d Infantry, assistant professor.\*

First Lieut. John D. Barrette, 3d Artillery; First Lieut. Charles D. Palmer, 3d Artillery; First Lieut. John S. Winn, 1st Cavalry; First Lieut. Charles P. Echols, Corps of Engineers; Second Lieut. William O. Johnson, 19th Infantry; Second Lieut. William M. Cruikshank, 1st Artillery; Second Lieut. John H. Rice, 3d Cavalry, instructors.\*

## DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY, MINERALOGY AND GEOLOGY.

Samuel E. Tillman, professor (Dec. 21, 1880).

First Lieut. Richmond P. Davis, 2d Artillery, assistant professor.\*

First Lieut. Edgar Russel, 5th Artillery; Second Lieut. Palmer E. Pierce, 6th Infantry; Second Lieut. William R. Smith, 1st Artillery, instructors.\*

## DEPARTMENT OF TACTICS.\*

Lieut.-Col. Samuel M. Mills, Captain 5th Artillery, commandant of cadets and instructor of tactics.

Capt. James Parker, 4th Cavalry, senior instructor of cavalry tactics.

First Lieut. Alexander B. Dyer, 4th Artillery, senior instructor of artillery tactics.

First Lieut. Granger Adams, 5th Artillery, assistant instructor of tactics, commanding company of cadets.

First Lieut. Wilds P. Richardson, 8th Infantry, senior instructor of infantry tactics.

First Lieut. William H. Allaire, 23d Infantry, assistant instructor of tactics, commanding company of cadets.

First Lieut. Willard A. Holbrook, 7th Cavalry, assistant instructor of tactics, commanding company of cadets.

First Lieut. Robert L. Howze, 6th Cavalry, assistant instructor of tactics, commanding company of cadets.

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†Associate professor with rank of captain.

\*These officers are usually changed every four years, part one year and part another.

Second Lieut. Matthew C. Butler, Jr., 5th Cavalry, assistant instructor of cavalry tactics.

#### DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES.

Edward E. Wood, professor (Oct. 1, 1892).

First Lieut. Cornelis DeW. Willcox, 2d Artillery, assistant professor of the Spanish language.\*

First Lieut. Arthur F. Curtis, 2d Artillery, assistant professor of the French language.\*

First Lieut. William S. Biddle, Jr., 14th Infantry; First Lieut. Peter E. Traub, 1st Cavalry; First Lieut. Marcus D. Cronin, 25th Infantry; Second Lieut. Samuel C. Hazzard, 1st Artillery; Second Lieut. Edward B. Cassatt, 4th Cavalry, instructors.\*

#### DEPARTMENT OF LAW.

George B. Davis, Lieut.-Col. and Deputy Judge Advocate General, U. S. A., professor (Aug. 20, 1895). (By assignment under act of June 6, 1874.)

First Lieut. James A. Cole, 6th Cavalry, assistant professor.\*

Second Lieut. Walter A. Bethel, 4th Artillery, instructor.\*

#### DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AND MILITARY ENGINEERING.

Gustav J. Fiebeger, professor (May 4, 1896).

First Lieut. Henry C. Newcomer, Corps of Engineers, assistant professor.\*

First Lieut. Thomas B. Rees, Corps of Engineers; First Lieut. Francis R. Shunk, Corps of Engineers, instructors.\*

#### DEPARTMENT OF PRACTICAL MILITARY ENGINEERING.\*

Capt. James L. Lusk, Corps of Engineers, instructor.

First Lieut. E. Eveleth Winslow, Corps of Engineers; Second Lieut. Jay J. Morrow, Corps of Engineers, assistant instructors.

#### DEPARTMENT OF ORDNANCE AND GUNNERY.\*

Capt. Lawrence L. Bruff, Ordnance Department, instructor.

First Lieut. Edwin B. Babbitt, Ordnance Department; Second Lieut. Henry D. Todd, Jr., 3d Artillery, assistant instructors.

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\*These officers are usually changed every four years, part one year and part another.

## CHAPLAIN.

Rev. Herbert Shipman (April 25, 1896).

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Herman J. Koehler, master of the sword.

George Essigke, teacher of music.

## ACADEMIC YEAR.

The academic year commences on July 1st. On or before that date the result of the examination held in the preceding month is announced, and cadets are advanced from one class to another. At no other time shall a cadet be advanced from one class to another, unless prevented by sickness, or authorized absence, from attending at the aforesaid examination, in which case a special examination shall be granted him; but in no case shall a cadet be advanced from one class to another without having passed a satisfactory examination by the Academic Board.

By reference to the "Table showing the disposition of candidates" (in the Appendix), it may be observed that there was no "academic year" prior to 1812. It was in this year that an Act of Congress was approved by the President, requiring all candidates to pass an examination, satisfactory to the "Academic Board," in reading, writing and arithmetic, before being admitted to the Academy. This Act remained in force until 1866, when the law now in operation was enacted.

Cadets found deficient at the January examinations are invariably discharged or permitted to resign, while some of the unfortunates at the June



examinations are turned back, as may be seen from the "table" above referred to. Since 1812 the Course of Study\* has been four years, except that in 1854-5 and 6 it was five.

#### CLASSIFICATION OF CADETS.

The number of cadets authorized by law to be at the Academy is 371, but the number present varies between 300 and 350, and they are arranged in four distinct classes, corresponding with the four years of study. The cadets employed on the first year's course constitute the Fourth Class; those on the second year's course the Third Class; those on the third Year's course the Second Class, and those on the fourth year's course the First Class.

#### BATTALION ORGANIZATION.

For instruction in infantry tactics and in military police and discipline, the cadets are organized into a battalion of four companies, under the commandant of cadets, each company being commanded by an officer of the army. The officers and non-commissioned officers are selected from those cadets who have been most studious, soldier-like in their performance of their duties, and most exemplary in their general deportment. In general, the officers are taken from the first class; the sergeants from the second class, and the corporals from the third class

No commissions are issued to cadet captains or lieutenants, and no warrants are issued to cadet

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\*See Course of Study in the Appendix.

sergeants or corporals; the captain named first in the order ranks those named after him, and the same rule applies to lieutenants; sergeants and corporals. One of the sergeants is designated as color-sergeant, and seven of the corporals are designated as color-corporals.

CADET OFFICERS AND NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.\*

"A"

"B"

"C"

"D"

CAPTAINS.

A. G. Lott,<sup>1</sup> G. T. Summerlin,<sup>3</sup> E. R. Heiberg,<sup>4</sup> G. M. Hoffman.<sup>2</sup>

LIEUTENANTS.

E. L. King, Adjutant.

H. Y. Grubbs, Quartermaster.

G. H. Shelton,<sup>2</sup> S. M. Kochersperger,<sup>1</sup> C. H. McNeil,<sup>4</sup> R. E. Callan,<sup>3</sup>  
 D. N. Hood,<sup>5</sup> I. Newell,<sup>6</sup> H. F. Jackson,<sup>7</sup> F. W. Lewis,<sup>8</sup>  
 L. R. Holbrook,<sup>10</sup> C. McK. Saltzman,<sup>9</sup> S. V. McClure,<sup>12</sup> D. E. Nolan.<sup>11</sup>

S. A. Cheney, Sergeant-Major. C. D. Roberts, Quartermaster-Sergeant.

FIRST SERGEANTS.

H. S. Morgan,<sup>1</sup> F. H. Pope,<sup>4</sup> J. C. Oakes,<sup>2</sup> P. A. Murphy,<sup>3</sup>

SERGEANTS.

H. Dorey,<sup>1</sup> M. E. Hanna,<sup>7</sup> L. C. Wolf,<sup>8</sup> J. C. Raymond,<sup>2</sup>  
 W. D. Connor,<sup>4</sup> F. R. McCoy,<sup>9</sup> R. E. Longan,<sup>6</sup> E. T. Conley,<sup>5</sup>  
 W. D. Newbill,<sup>10</sup> S. M. Milliken,<sup>12</sup> J. N. Munro,<sup>11</sup> E. O. Sarratt,<sup>8</sup>  
 H. B. Ferguson,<sup>15</sup> W. S. Valentine,<sup>16</sup> M. C. Buckley,<sup>14</sup> C. H. Miller.<sup>13</sup>

CORPORALS.

M. Craig,<sup>3</sup> G. V. Henry, Jr.,<sup>1</sup> R. C. Davis,<sup>4</sup> W. F. Nesbitt,<sup>2</sup>  
 W. P. Wooten,<sup>7</sup> F. C. Boggs, Jr.,<sup>5</sup> E. D. Bricker,<sup>6</sup> C. S. Babcock,<sup>8</sup>  
 L. W. Jordan, Jr.,<sup>17</sup> G. R. Hancock,<sup>9</sup> E. N. Benchley,<sup>11</sup> J. C. Nicholls,<sup>10</sup>  
 J. E. Stephens,<sup>18</sup> N. R. Chambliss, Jr.,<sup>14</sup> H. L. Newbold,<sup>15</sup> C. S. Smith,<sup>12</sup>  
 M. C. Kerth,<sup>19</sup> M. McCloskey,<sup>16</sup> J. B. Gowen,<sup>20</sup> A. E. Williams.<sup>13</sup>

Cadet rank is indicated by chevrons,† as follows:

For a Captain, ‡ 4 bars.

\*Appointments in force June 1, 1896. The figures indicate relative rank.

†Chevrons are made of gold lace  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch wide; sewed on dark blue cloth with  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch intervals between the bars.

‡Worn above the elbows, points up.

For the Adjutant, ‡ 3 bars and an arc of 3 bars.

For the Quartermaster, ‡ 3 bars and a tie of 3 bars.

For a Lieutenant, ‡ 3 bars.

For the Sergeant-Major, ‡ 2 bars and an arc of 2 bars.

For the Quartermaster-Sergeant, ‡ 2 bars and a tie of 2 bars.

For a First Sergeant, ‡ 2 bars and a lozenge.

For the Color-Sergeant, ‡ 2 bars and a star.

For a Sergeant, ‡ 2 bars.

For a Color-Corporal, † 2 bars and a star.

For a Corporal, † 2 bars.

#### BOARD OF VISITORS.

There shall be appointed every year, in the following manner, a Board of Visitors to attend the annual examination of the Academy. Seven persons shall be appointed by the President, and two Senators and three members of the House of Representatives shall be designated as visitors by the Vice-President or the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, respectively, at the session of Congress next preceding such examination.—[Section 1327, Revised Statutes of the United States.]

It shall be the duty of the Board of Visitors to inquire into the actual state of the discipline, instructions, police administration, fiscal affairs and

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‡Worn above the elbows, points up.

†Worn below the elbows, points up.

other concerns of the Academy. The visitors appointed by the President shall report thereon to the Secretary of War, for the information of Congress, at the commencement of the session next succeeding such examination, and the Senators and Representatives designated as visitors shall report to Congress, within twenty days after the meeting of the session next succeeding the time of their appointment, their action as such visitors, with their views and recommendations concerning the Academy.—[Section 1328, Revised Statutes of the United States.]

No compensation shall be made to the members of said Board beyond the payment of their expenses for board and lodging while at the Academy, and an allowance not exceeding eight cents a mile for traveling, by the shortest mail route, from their respective homes to the Academy, and thence to their homes.—[Section 1329, Revised Statutes of the United States.]

The expenses allowed by section thirteen hundred and twenty-nine of the Revised Statutes shall be paid as follows: Each member of the Board of Visitors shall receive not exceeding eight cents per mile traveled, by the most direct route, from his residence to West Point and return, and shall, in addition, receive five dollars per day for expenses during each day of his service at West Point.—[Act of Congress, approved March 3, 1877.]





## CHAPTER III.

## THE PREPARATION.

**A**FTER examining the papers received from the War Department, I found one that required my father's signature before I myself could accept the appointment. My parents both objected to my leaving home, and therefore did not wish me to go to West Point. I argued that I wanted to go to college somewhere, and why not let me go where Uncle Sam paid the bills. At last I won my mother on my side, and then my father, seeing that my heart was so fixed, signed the paper requiring his signature, and mailed it to the Honorable Secretary of War, Washington, D. C. This done I let the secret out, and all of my boy friends wanted to know how I had gotten the appointment. I told part, but I did not tell just how I did get it.

After seeing the kind of examination\* I would have to pass at West Point the next year, my father decided to send me to the High School at Ann Arbor, Mich., and to send my brother Charley there with me to prepare him for the University of Michigan. We entered the High School

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\*See Appendix, pages i to xii.

early in September. About two weeks afterward the University of Michigan (also at Ann Arbor) opened, and we observed that many of the candidates for the freshman class seemed no farther advanced than we thought ourselves, so we applied, were examined, and admitted to the University. I thought that if I failed at West Point I could return and graduate at the University in three instead of four years.

There was a tall young man from Tennessee, who entered the High School with us, and afterward entered the University, too. He, like myself, had an appointment to West Point, and was going there the next June, so we became friends at once, and he and I agreed to study after Christmas for the West Point examination. After the sophomores quit hazing, all went well with us, and the year soon passed. I left Ann Arbor on the last day of April to return home via Lakes Huron and Michigan, and went to Detroit to take the first steamer of the season around the lakes to Chicago. Upon arriving in Detroit, I heard that there was to be a muster and inspection of a regiment of United States troops out at Fort Wayne, a short ride from Detroit, and as I was to be a soldier, I went to see the sight. As I looked at the troops (the First U. S. Infantry), I thought that I would like to be an officer of that regiment when I graduated from West Point, and singularly enough my wish was gratified. I remained so long at Fort Wayne that the boat had departed when I returned



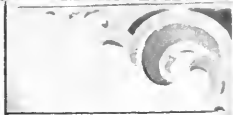
to Detroit, so I took train and overtook the boat at Port Huron. While there I went to see Fort Gratiot, and strange to say, that was subsequently my first army station. When the steamer stopped at Mackinaw I visited the fort that was there at that time.

After my return home I reviewed the studies I was to be examined on in a few weeks, and then started east. I promised my father if I failed to pass the examination that I would return home at once. Arriving in the great city of New York I took passage on the day steamer "Mary Powell," and was charmed with the scenery along the Hudson. The first stop was at the south landing at West Point. I was on the upper deck at the time, and after seeing my trunk put ashore, I walked leisurely downstairs to disembark and to my great surprise the boat was fifty feet or more from shore when I got down. I thought that all steamers made long stops, for the only other boat that I had ever been on stopped for many hours every time she landed. The captain would not let me off and said that I could get off at Cornwall and take a down boat the same evening. I was satisfied and went on the upper deck again and saw the passengers who had landed get into the West Point Hotel 'bus. All the trunks except mine were put on the top of the 'bus, and it was then driven up the hill, leaving my trunk all alone on the dock.

When the steamer stopped at Cornwall I this time promptly stepped ashore. It was about sun-

set. There were not more than half a dozen buildings in sight and not a soul at the dock, and I was the only passenger landing at that point. I went to one of the houses and inquired the location of the hotel, and I was informed that it was not open as it was too early for summer visitors. I then asked what time the down boat was due, and was informed that it would be along soon, but that it would not stop. The West Shore Railroad was not built at that time, and as there was no stage line over the mountains nor ferry on the river, I began to fear that I could not get away by the tenth of June, the last day for me to report. This bothered me more than the hotel accommodations, but I soon found obliging people and arranged for my lodging and breakfast, and also to be rowed to my destination the next day.





BATTERY KNOX.

SEA COAST BATTERY.

SIEGE BATTERY.



## CHAPTER IV.

## THE CANDIDATE.

“As the twig is bent, the tree is inclined.”

IT WAS about ten o'clock in the morning of June 8, 18—, when I stepped from a rowboat on the dock near the Sea Coast Battery at West Point. The weather was perfect, and my heart was light and free. As there was neither any person nor conveyance at the dock, I followed the road winding up the hill to the plain. I stopped to admire the scenery. In front I beheld a level green plain of one hundred acres or more with massive buildings peeping through the large elm trees that fringe two sides of the plain; on either side were high hills; in my rear rolled the majestic Hudson between the Highlands, with Siege Battery at my feet. As I gazed around it was to me then, as it is to me now, the most beautiful of places.

I found my way to the Adjutant's office in the Administration Building and reported. I was courteously received and handed the “Instructions to Candidates”\* to read. I stated the fact of my trunk having been put ashore on the south dock and of the Mary Powell carrying me to Corn-

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\*See Appendix, page xiii.

wall the previous evening, and I was told that my trunk had undoubtedly been taken to the hotel, as there was then (and now is) but one hotel at the Point. And I was also informed that my trunk would be sent to the Cadet Barracks. After I had complied with the instructions, an orderly, at the sound of a bell, entered and was directed to escort me to the barracks. In going through the area we passed some cadets and I overheard such remarks as "He'll learn to button his coat." At the orderly's suggestion I buttoned my coat. He took me into a hall, said "This is the door," laid down my valise and left me. The door was the first one on the right of the eighth division, how well I remember it. I knocked on the door, and heard a commanding voice say "Come in!" With valise and umbrella in one hand and cap in the other I entered. There were two cadets in the room seated near a table, and before I had a chance to speak I was greeted about as follows: "Leave your things in the hall. Don't you know better than to bring them in here?" I stepped into the hall, left the door open, and while looking for a suitable place to put my things (for there was neither a hook nor a table), one of these two cadets cried out: "Lay them on the floor and come in, and don't be all day about it, either. Move lively, I say. Shut the door. Stand there. Come to attention. Put your heels together, turn out your toes, put your hands by your side, palms to the front, fingers closed, little fingers on the seams of the trousers, head up, chin

in, shoulders thrown back, chest out, draw in your belly, and keep your eyes on this tack." While one cadet was giving commands with great rapidity, the other one fixed my feet, hands, head and shoulders. "What's your name? Put a Mr. before it. How do you spell it? What's your first name? Spell it. What's your middle name? Have none? What state are you from? What part? Put a sir on every answer. Where's your trunk? Don't know? Didn't you bring one? Put on a sir; how often do you want me to speak about it?" I explained how my trunk and I had arrived at different times. "You're too slow. You'll never get along here. Keep your eyes on that tack, turn the palms of your hands squarely to the front. Did you bring all of the articles marked 'thus'? You don't know what they are? Put on a sir, I tell you. Didn't you get a circular telling what articles you should bring? Didn't you read it? Now answer me; did you bring the articles marked 'thus'? Well, why didn't you say so at first? Keep your eyes on that tack." A wagon drove up and put a trunk on the porch near the window. "About face! Turn around the other way. Don't you know anything? Is that your trunk? It is, is it? Now, let's see you 'about face' properly. Steady. At the word 'about' turn on the left heel, turning the left toe to the front, carrying the right foot to the rear, the hollow opposite to and three inches from the left heel, the feet perpendicular to each other. Don't look at your feet. Head up. Stand at 'attention'

till I give the command. Now, 'about.' (One of the cadets fixed my feet.) At the word 'face' turn on both heels, raise the toe a little, face to the rear, when the face is nearly completed, raise the right foot and replace it by the left. Now, 'face.' Ah! turn on both heels. Fix your eyes on that tack again. Draw in your belly. Throw back your shoulders and stand up like a man. Now, 'left, face.' Don't you know your left hand from your right? Face that door; open it. Ah! why don't you step off with the left foot first? Pick up your things, follow me, and move lively." My back was nearly broken, and I was glad to get out of that room. After going a few steps on the broad porch on the area side of barracks, a young man in civilian clothes came out of the next hallway carrying the palms of his hands to the front. "Come here, Mr. H——rd, and help your room-mate carry his trunk upstairs; step lively, now." With that introduction Mr. H——rd and I took hold of the trunk. Just then the tall young Tennessean, whom I knew at Ann Arbor, passed, carrying the palms of hands to the front. We exchanged knowing winks, but did not venture to speak. "What's the matter with you? Don't be all day carrying that trunk upstairs." H——rd and I tugged away and finally got the trunk upstairs and into the room designated. Candidates H——rd and K——p had already been assigned to the same room. "Stand attention, Mr. K——p. Don't you know enough to stand attention when I enter the room? Palms



to the front. Put the trunk over there. Mr. R——d open your trunk and valise and take out everything and make a list of all you have. Stand attention, Mr. H——rd. Take out your things first and make a list afterward. Put the small articles on this part of the clothes-press, hang your clothes on those pegs and put your bedding over there. Study the regulations. Fold your things properly, put them in their places and the next time I come in I want to see everything in place. What did you bring that umbrella for? You will never need it here. Mr. R——d, post your name over there on the 'alcove,' put it on the 'Orderly Board' under Mr. K——p's name, and put it there on the clothes-press. Whenever you hear the command, 'Candidates, turn out,' button your coats, hasten downstairs and 'fall in' in the Area." Cadet H——d left the room then, and we sat down, prostrated. Then we proceeded to get acquainted with one another, and on comparing notes we found that each one of us had had about the same reception. As H——rd and K——p had reported the day before, they gave me many pointers, which I appreciated.

The room was good-sized, with two alcoves at the end opposite the window; but, oh! how uninviting it seemed. No bed, no carpet, no curtains, and not even shades. The furniture that was in the room consisted of a clothes-press, that is, shelving arranged for two cadets, but to be used by three or four candidates, two small iron tables, a

wash stand, an iron mantel and a steam coil with a marble slab on it. H——rd and K——p had already carried from the Commissary certain articles for use by all occupants of the room, as follows: A looking glass, a wash basin, a water bucket, a cocoanut dipper, a slop bucket and a broom. They had also obtained such other articles as were required for their personal use, such as a chair and a pillow.

The following extract from the "Blue Book" shows the

#### ARRANGEMENT OF ROOMS, ETC..

White Helmet.—On the clothes-press.

Dress Hat.—On gun-rack shelf.

Cartridge Box and Bayonet or Sword.—On pegs near gun-rack.

Caps and Sabres.—On pegs near gun-rack.

Rifle.—In gun-rack.

Spurs.—On peg with sabre.

Bedstead.—In alcove against side wall of room, head against rear wall.

Bedding.—Mattress, folded once; blankets, comforter and sheets, folded separately, so that the folds shall be the width of the pillow, and all piled against the head of the bedstead, thus: mattress, sheets, pillow, blankets and comforter; the end of the pile next to the alcove partition to be in line with the side of the bedstead; this end and the front of the pile to be vertical.

Clothes-Press.—Books on top against the wall,

backs to the front; hair and clothes brushes, combs, shaving materials, such small boxes as are allowed, vials for medicine, etc., on top shelf; belts, collars, gloves, handkerchiefs, socks, etc., on second shelf from the top; sheets, pillow cases, shirts, drawers, pants, etc., on the other shelves.

Text Books.—Those in daily use may be upon the tables, except during Sunday morning inspection.

Arrangement.—All articles of the same kind to be neatly placed in one pile, folded edges to the front and even with front edge of the shelves. Nothing to be between these piles and the back of the press, unless want of room renders it necessary.

Soiled Clothes.—In clothes bag.

Shoes.—To be kept clean, dusted and arranged in line along the side near the foot of the bed. Shoe brush in the fireplace.

Woolen Clothing, Dressing Gown and Clothes Bag.—On pegs in alcove, arranged as follows: Overcoat, dressing gown, uniform coats, jackets, gray pants, clothes bag and night clothes.

Broom.—Behind the door.

Candle Box.—In fireplace.

Tables.—Against the wall under gas jet or near the window when the room is dark.

Chairs.—From 8 a. m. to 10 p. m. against the tables when not in use.

Mirror.—At center of mantel.

Wash Stand.—In front of and against alcove partition.

Wash Basin.—Inverted on top of wash stand.

Water Bucket.—Near to and on side of wash stand opposite the door.

Dipper.—In water bucket.

Slop Bucket.—Near to and on side of wash stand nearest the door.

Curtains.—Regulation only allowed.

Calendar.—A small, plain one may be placed on the wall over the gas fixture.

Clock.—A small, plain one may be kept on the mantel.

Bath Towel.—May be hung in the alcove.

Trunks, Pictures, Splashers, Writing Desks, Etc.—Prohibited. There is a storeroom for trunks.

Floor.—To be kept clean and free from grease spots or stains.

Heating Apparatus.—To be kept clean and free from scratches.

Windows.—Cadets are forbidden to sit at the windows with feet on the woodwork, or to appear before windows improperly dressed, or to communicate through windows, or to raise the lower sash more than four inches during "call to quarters."

Names.—Uniformly printed to be posted over gun-rack pegs, alcove, clothes-press and on orderly board over wash stand.

Hours of Recitation.—To be on the mantel on either side of the mirror.

Academic Regulations, Articles of War and the Blue Book.—To be kept on the mantel.

Laundry.—All clothes sent to the wash to be plainly marked with owner's name.

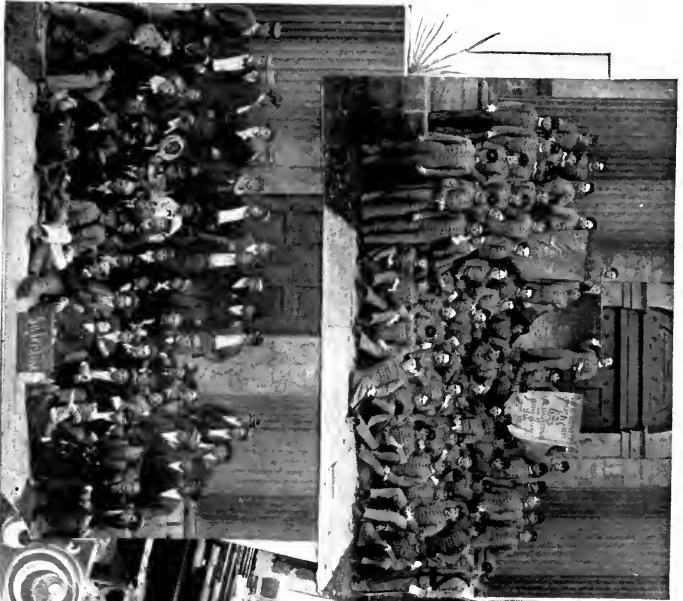
Room Orderly.—Is responsible for the cleanliness and ventilation of the room, and that articles for joint use are in place.

After having folded and arranged my possessions according to the Blue Book, as I understood from a hasty perusal of it, I looked out of the window down into the Area of Barracks, where I saw old cadets passing to and fro. They carried themselves so very erect that we could not help but admire them and wish that we too were as straight and walked as well as they. We observed what small waists they had, and we wondered if they laced. Another thing we observed was that the cadets looked so much alike. I had unbuttoned my coat while arranging my effects and forgot to button it again, when I heard a quick walk in the hall and then a sharp, firm, single rap on the door. We all sprang promptly to attention, palms to the front. Cadet H——d entered and began: "Button your coat, Mr. R——d." He moved several piles on the clothes-press and disarranged my bedding, too, saying, "Not folded properly. Why don't you study the Blue Book? Mr. H——rd, fill your water bucket the first thing every morning. Get the water from one of the hydrants in the Area. The

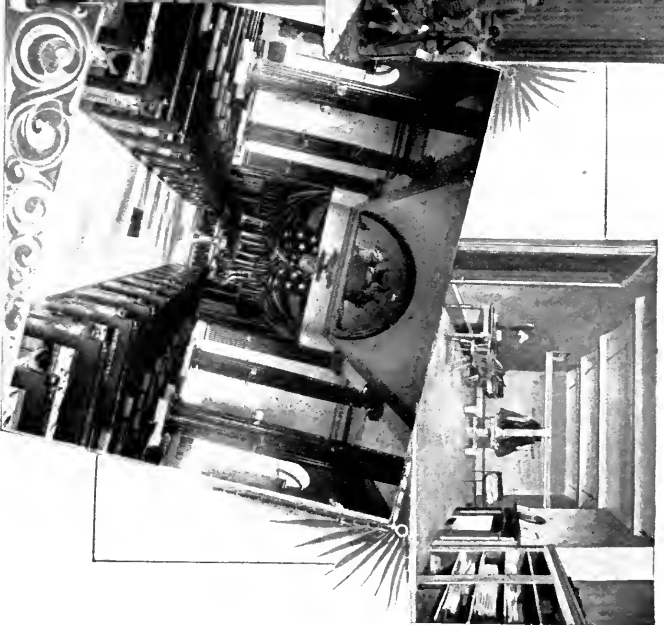
floor is very dirty, sweep it properly, invert your wash bowl, and don't let me have occasion to speak about these things again."

The first call for dinner sounded and then we heard, "Candidates, turn out promptly." We hastened downstairs. The old cadets were gathering in four different groups, while the candidates were being put into another one. Cadets H——d, A——n and M——n were on the watch for candidates, and they began thus:

"Button that coat. Get down here lively. 'Fall in.' Fall in in the rear; don't you know better than to get in front of anybody? Palms to the front. Fix your eyes on the seam of the coat collar of the man in front of you, and at the second call, face to the left." Some of the candidates faced one way and some another, but we were soon straightened out, and then, "Eyes to the front! What do you mean gazing about in ranks? Each candidate, as his name is called, will answer 'Here' in a clear and audible tone of voice." The roll of the candidates was then called. "Why don't you answer, Mr. H——? Well, then, speak up so that you can be heard. Mr. ——, don't shout," and so on till the last name was called. We were told how to "count fours," and after the command came something like this: "Stop counting. Try it over. Count fours. Steady, Mr. ——; wait till the man on your right counts. Eyes to the front. Why don't you count, Mr. ——? Speak out. Eyes to the front," and so on. We were now told how to



FIRST CLASSMEN.  
FURLONGHMAN.



THE CHAPEL.

CADET ROOM.





“wheel by fours,” and at the command, “March,” to step off with the left foot first. There was a great time after the command “Fours right, march,” was given. The cadets on duty over us were kept busy shouting at and pulling in place, first one candidate and then another, but after a fashion we got started and followed the cadets to the Mess Hall, and those on duty over us were kept busy all the way correcting mistakes made by the candidates.

While en route to dinner we were directed to remove our caps just before entering the Mess Hall and to put them on again just after leaving it. Of course we made blunders, and were gently (?) corrected for them. Upon entering the hall we were directed to certain tables, but told not to sit down until the command, “Candidates, take seats,” was given. When each one found a place behind an iron stool (that in my day resembled an hour glass in shape), the command, “A Company, take seats,” was given, and then the members of A Company all sat down promptly; then came “B Company, take seats,” “C Company, take seats,” “D Company, take seats,” and then, “Candidates, take seats.” Immediately after the last command something like this came: “Sit down promptly. Do you want to be all day about it? Eat your dinner, and don’t leave the table until the command, ‘Candidates, rise.’”

Dinner was on the table, and there were a good many tables in the big hall. Each table had seats for twenty-two persons, ten on a side and one at

either end. There were tablecloths, but no napkins, and one waiter for every two long tables; the waiters did not pass anything, but brought water, bread, etc., when needed. The cadets (and candidates) at the ends of the tables did the carving, while those at the center of the long tables poured the water. At supper and breakfast there were no tablecloths. Tablecloths and napkins are now furnished for all meals, and there are cane seat chairs instead of the old iron stools. The tables of the cadets were divided crosswise in the center by an imaginary line into two parts, and each part was called a table. The cadets had seats according to rank, and they always sat in the same seats. First classmen sat near the end called the head of the table, second classmen next, third classmen (except the corporals) next, and then fourth classmen, the latter being at the center of the long tables. The corporals were the carvers, and the fourth classmen poured the water.

After dinner we were marched back to barracks, and before being dismissed the candidates were informed that they could do as they pleased until the bugle sounded "Call to quarters" at 2 o'clock, and then they must repair promptly to quarters, that is, to their own rooms in the barracks. All the time that we were in ranks the usual volleys were fired at us, such as: "Eyes to the front. Head erect and chin in." After we were dismissed we were constantly reminded to "carry palms of the hands to the front," notwithstanding the fact that

we had been told to go where we pleased for a whole half hour. Some of the candidates went to the sink (i. e., water closet), and some of the old cadets went there, too. A number of them surrounded a poor candidate, called him a plebe or an animal, and fired dozens of questions at him at once. The madder the plebe got the more fun it was for the old cadets. As the candidates were not acquainted with one another, and as they dreaded to meet the old cadets, they naturally drifted to their own quarters, thinking that the safest place to be, but, alas! some of the old cadets called upon them there. While they did not mention their names, something like this generally occurred: "'Shun' squād. Come to attention, plebes. Palms to the front. What's your name? Spell it, spell it backwards. What state are you from? Who's your predecessor? Say: "Mr. ——." Do you think you can pass the 'prelim'? Where is Newburg? Don't know? How do you expect to get in here if you don't know where Newburg is? Climb up on that mantel and be lively about it, too. Now move your arms and say, 'Caw, Caw.' Stop that laughing. Eyes to the front." And so on, till the old cadets would slip out in time to go to their rooms for "Call to quarters."

At two o'clock came the call, "Candidates, turn out promptly," and every candidate turned out and "fell in." A number were sent back for towels and upon returning to the Area were sent to the bathrooms, then in the basement of D Company quar-

ters. After bathing some were sent to the Cadet Hospital for physical examination, and were there told to strip to the skin, then called one at a time before three Army Surgeons, in full uniform, who examined the lungs, eyes, ears, teeth and feet, made the candidates hop first on one foot then on the other, raise their hands high above the head, cough, bend over forward, etc. When my turn came I did not mention anything about ever having been troubled with my eyes.

Upon returning to the barracks we were sent to the Commissary, where each candidate was given the articles necessary for his own immediate use. As near as I now remember, I got a chair, a pillow, a piece of soap, an arithmetic, a slate, a copybook, a quire of "uniform" paper, a history, a grammar and a geography. Other candidates who, like myself, had brought the articles marked "Thus\*" received the same as I, while those who had not brought them got two blankets in addition to what the rest of us got. The books mentioned above are not now issued to candidates. Cadet H——d saw to it that candidates rooming together were provided with a wash bowl, a mirror, two buckets, etc. When all were fitted out we took up our loads and returned with them to Barracks, carrying them in our hands or on our shoulders, as was most convenient. This trip from the Commissary store to Barracks has been described thus:

“Examinations being completed,  
The ‘found’ having fled evermore,  
Then with fear and a sigh  
And blood in the eye,  
Candidates hasten to the store.

‘Give me my things,’ in joy a plebe exclaims,  
Then the storekeeper puts on a smile,  
But dispels the illusion  
And causes confusion  
By throwing his goods in a pile.”

“Slowly he carries them across the plain,  
With buckets and broom in the rear;  
But hard is the task,  
He has reason to ask  
If his future abode is quite clear.

“The looking-glass breaks, the pails rattle loud,  
And the sound echoes from afar;  
Plebe cries in disgust,  
‘Let me get up and dust,  
I want to go home to my ma.’”

Upon returning to Barracks we were ordered to our rooms, and then to the shoeblacks, at that time in the basement of B Company quarters, to have our shoes cleaned and polished, and told to go there, at certain hours, as often as necessary to keep our shoes in proper order. Candidates whose hair was considered too long by Cadet H——d were sent to the barber’s, at that time in the basement of C Company quarters. Candidates who had to shave were directed to shave themselves, as the barber was not permitted to do anything but cut hair.

At 4:15 p. m. we were turned out for “Squad

Drill." We "fell in" promptly and were corrected in the manner indicated when we fell in for dinner. Even now I seem to hear Cadets A——n, H——d and M——n shouting themselves hoarse at us poor, stupid candidates. There were about twenty "yearlings," classmates of Cadets A——n and H——d, standing around our line, waiting to get a chance at the candidates, so as to compete with them and with one another for "Corporal's chevrons." We were separated into squads of four or five to the squad, and a cadet instructor assigned to drill each squad. Cadet H——d had the squad I was in. After all details were adjusted, the command, "March off your Squads" was given, and then Babylon was let loose; the candidates could hear the commands of all of the instructors, and they did not know the voice of their own, hence there was much confusion. Some of the instructors acted as if they wanted to terrorize the candidates in their squads, and shouted: "Eyes to the front. Pay attention to me. What do you mean by listening to others? Palms to the front," and so on, for ten or fifteen minutes, and then we were given a brief "rest."

Then we were taught how to march and the instructor began thus: "At the word 'forward' throw the weight of the body upon the right leg, the left knee straight. At the word 'march' move the left leg smartly, without jerk, carry the left foot forward thirty inches from the right, the sole near the ground, the toe a little depressed, knee straight

and slightly turned out. At the same time throw the weight of the body forward (eyes to the front), and plant the foot without shock, weight of the body resting upon it; next, in like manner, advance the right foot and plant it as above. Continue to advance without crossing the legs or striking one against the other, keeping the face direct to the front. Now, 'forward, common time, march.' Depress the toe, so that it strikes the ground at the same time as the heel. (Palms of the hands squarely to the front. Head up.) When I count 'one,' plant the left foot, 'two,' plant the right, 'three,' plant the left again, 'four,' plant the right again, and so on. Now, 'One,' 'two,' 'three,' 'four,' etc. "Bring your feet down together. Depress your toes," and so on.

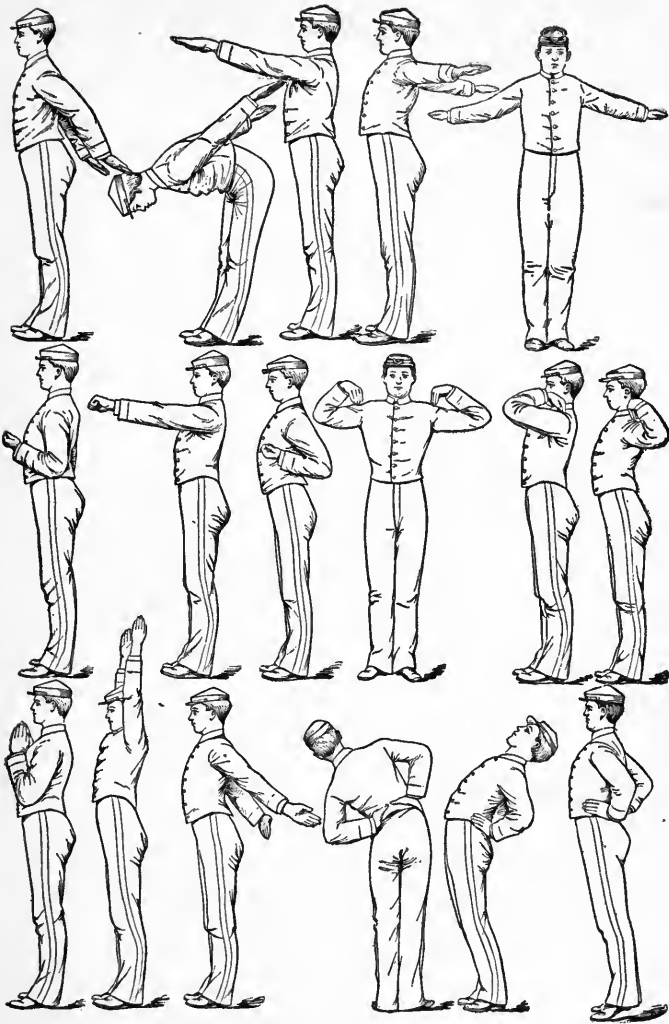
We were taught many things, such as the facings, the exercises, rests, etc. "In place, rest," was the most acceptable, but half the pleasure of that was taken away from the candidates by being often told to "keep one heel in place." That first hour at squad drill is not soon forgotten. My every muscle was sore and I ached all over. Just before we were dismissed we were informed that we could go anywhere we pleased on Cadet Limits, so long as we were back a little before sunset, in time for dress parade. This seemed a great privilege, but wherever candidates went some old cadets were already there, and greeted them with "Depress your toes, plebes. Palms to the front. Are you going to be all summer learning how to march? Squad

halt. Right hand salute. What's your name? Can you sing, dance or play on the piano? Come here 'Dad,' and see this 'animal.' ” And a thousand and one other equally pleasant sayings.

Dress parade came and went, but the candidates did not participate in the ceremony out on the grassy plain. They were kept in the Area, and their positions alternated between “Attention” and “Parade, Rest.” When the “Retreat Gun” was fired many of them jumped half out of ranks, and then were gently (?) informed that they were a fine lot of soldiers. “What do you mean by leaving ranks before you are dismissed?” When we had half a chance we enjoyed the music of the band, but it was very hard to hear it and our instructor's commands at the same time. Soon after parade we fell in again and marched to supper. On the way to and from the Mess Hall we were constantly entertained by our cadet instructors by such commands as, “Eyes to the front,” “Depress your toes,” and “Palms to the front.” Before being dismissed after supper we were informed that we had half an hour before “Call to quarters,” and that during that half hour we could do as we pleased. But that half hour passed just as the other half hours had passed, that is, by the candidates furnishing amusement for the old cadets.

Upon going to our rooms at the signal of “Call to quarters,” Cadet H——d called to say that if we expected to pass our preliminary examination we had better “bone up” for it; he also informed





SETTING UP EXERCISES.



us that we could not retire until after "Tattoo." A cadet's bed is "made down," when it is ready to get into, and it is "made up" when it is piled according to regulations and not ready for use. We were too tired to talk. At 9:30 we were turned out to Tattoo. After Tattoo I folded each blanket lengthwise and laid it on the floor, then spread the sheets and comforter on the blankets, undressed and got in bed, leaving H——rd, the room orderly, to turn out the gas. Our bones did not fit the hard floor very well, but we soon fell asleep. "Taps" sounded at 10 p. m., and, oh, how sweet and soothing it was. In a few moments more our room door was opened (for they are never locked), a dark lantern flashed in our faces and the door closed again. The same thing was repeated once more during the night, but this time by an officer of the army, called by the cadets a "Tactical Officer." These inspections were made to make sure that our lights were out and that we were in bed. We slept in the alcoves, heads near the wall farthest from the door. H——rd, K——p and I, when fast asleep, were suddenly awakened. We had been "yanked," that is, some old cadets had come into our room, seized our blankets, and with a quick jerk carried us some distance from the wall, and then ran out of the room. We fell asleep once more and slept soundly until we were awakened by the "Reveille Gun" that is fired at sunrise and followed by the beating off of "Reveille." This music was very pretty, too, but we could not half

appreciate it, as we had to get up at once, fall in and begin another day. After reveille we made up our beds. H——rd swept out and brought a bucket of fresh water. Cadet H——d inspected our quarters twenty minutes after reveille, and said, "Mr. H——rd, your wash bowl is not inverted, and your floor not half swept. Attend to them at once."

We had another hour's drill before breakfast (omitted now), which made us very hungry. Sick call sounded soon after this drill, but while the candidates were all half sick, it was not medicine they wanted, so none of them went to the hospital. Breakfast was at seven o'clock, and after it the candidates furnished the cadets with the customary half-hour's entertainment before call to quarters sounded. Cadet H——d again cautioned us to "bone up" when he inspected quarters about nine o'clock, and said: "The mantel is dusty, and the floor very dirty." Captain H——t, a Tactical Officer of the Army, also inspected us before noon, but he did not say anything. While I had then been only a day at West Point, so much had happened that it seemed an age.

About a week passed with much the same routine as for the first day, except that we had Saturday afternoon, after inspection, to ourselves, that is, such part of it as we were not busy entertaining old cadets, and on Sunday morning we had inspection of quarters, and after this inspection we were all marched to church. On

Sunday afternoon we were permitted to make down and air, or use, our beds, and to enjoy lying on the soft side of the boards again. The candidates were all marched to the Episcopal Church, "the" church there at that day. In due time the Catholics and Methodists attended their own churches, but all cadets, except Jewish ones, had to attend some church once a week. After inspection of quarters on Sunday morning, K—p became room orderly for the next week. It was then his duty to sweep and dust the room and to carry the water needed for himself, H—rd and me. The dirt was swept into the hall to one side of the door, and left there. A policeman, that is, the janitor, swept the halls, carried out the waste water and scrubbed room and hall floors, when necessary. It is wonderful how soon we learned many things, such as to button our coats and spring to attention, palms to the front, at the sound of footsteps in our hall. At first we made mistakes, but we soon learned to distinguish the footsteps of our instructors from those of our fellow-candidates.

There was a story in my day of a gentleman who went with his son when the latter reported as a candidate, and that while Cadets H—d and A—n were putting the son through his first lesson in the office, the father turned his palms to the front, put his heels together, and otherwise assumed the position of the soldier.

At the first opportunity I wrote home, but I was

very careful not to mention the hardships I endured, for the reason that I had gone to West Point contrary to my parents' wishes, and consequently I was determined to get through if I could. This reminds me, there were young men in my class whose parents had sent them there against the wishes of the candidates themselves, and many of these young men did not want to stay. Competitive examinations required by some Congressmen for appointments were not as common in my day as they are now. Some of my classmates purposefully failed on the preliminary examination and West Point is no place for a young man unless the young man himself wants to go there.

One day Mr. B——dy, my predecessor, sent for me to go to his quarters. I did not know what new trials were in store for me, as I had never been in any old cadet's quarters. Mr. B——dy invited me to sit down, which I did for the first time in an old cadet's presence. We talked for a few moments about people we both knew at our native places. He then gave me his "white pants" (about twenty pairs), and said he hoped I would pass the "prelim" so as to be able to wear them, and that I would graduate higher than he would.

The "graduating ball" that year was on the night of June 14th, but as candidates were not expected to attend it, none were present. The next day the graduating class received their diplomas, discarded cadet gray, put on "Cit" clothes, said good-byes and left the Point, to return no more as

cadets. We did not know much of the graduating class, but I now remember the names of more men in that class than in any other at the Academy, excepting my own. This I account for from the fact that I was then so much impressed with the importance of a graduate of West Point. In my eyes he seemed to be a greater man than the Superintendent, in fact there was no comparison.

There was a change made on graduating day among the cadet officers. At the next drill Cadet H—d appeared with pretty gold lace chevrons on his coat. He wore them on the sleeves of his dress coat, below the elbow, and he was proud to have everybody know that he was a "Corporal" now. I promptly congratulated him, and he said, "Thank you, Mr. R—d," instead of reprimanding me for speaking without having been first spoken to. In a few days more the new second class men put on "Cit" clothes, and left on furlough. It seemed strange to me that these cadets seemed just as anxious to take off the cadet gray as the candidates were to put it on.

Before the departure of the graduates and furloughmen the candidates learned that there were four trunk rooms in the angle of Barracks, one for the cadets of each company. They learned this by carrying trunks from there to the rooms of the graduates and furloughmen. I soon learned that I got along the easiest by saying as little as possible and doing about as I was told. The candidates who talked much or who bragged on what they

knew, especially about military matters, had the hardest time. These poor fellows were called "too fresh," or "rapid," and, as the cadets expressed it, they had to be "taken down."

It was a common thing for old cadets to enjoy a call upon candidates after supper and on Saturday afternoons. And it was difficult at first for candidates to become acquainted with one another, as so much of their leisure (?) time was taken up answering questions, standing on chairs, tables and mantels, reading press notices about themselves, singing, and in fact doing almost everything old cadets told them to do. I have heard many cadets when they were "plebes" or "animals," declare that they would not do so and so, but they always did as they were told, and they were quick about it, too. It is strange what control old cadets have over "plebes." They never laid hands on candidates except when they yanked them.

We soon discovered that the cadets who found especial delight in being in the society of plebes were generally "yearlings," that is, those who had themselves been plebes only the year before. But "yearling" instructors seldom deviled plebes in their own squads.

Mail arrived every day, and was sorted over, that for the cadets and plebes in each division was dropped on the floor in the halls near the entrances and the word mail called out in a loud tone of voice. Every one expecting mail buttoned up his



coat and hastened to get such as might be for him. Now the policemen deliver mail to the cadets in their rooms.

In a few days more the candidates were sent in sections of about a dozen to the section for their preliminary or entrance examination. The section I was in was sent to a room having tables, chairs and writing materials, and we were here examined in writing and spelling. There was but one officer present, and after a certain time we put our names on and handed our papers to him whether we had finished them or not. We were next sent to another room, where there were about a half a dozen members of the Academic Board, and as many other army officers. Each candidate, as his name was called, was assigned a subject and then sent to a blackboard. The first one called was numbered one, the second numbered two, and so on, until five or six candidates were sent to different blackboards. Each was directed to write his name and number at the upper right hand corner of the board, to put such data or work on the board as he wished, and when ready to recite to pick up a pointer in his right hand and face about. While those sent to the blackboard were getting ready to recite, another candidate was sent to the center of the room, facing the examiners, and then questioned by one of them. After finishing with the candidate on questions, No. 1 was called upon to recite, and after he was through, another candidate was assigned a subject and sent to the board,

and so on. Some of the candidates were self-possessed, and made good recitations and ready answers to questions, while others trembled all over and lost control over themselves, their hearts got up into their throats or went down into their boots. The examination here was in grammar, history, and geography. We were then sent to another room before as many other Professors and Army Officers for examination in arithmetic and reading. I was satisfied with my examination up to this time. After the assignments to the blackboards I was called upon to read. I began to tremble, and had much difficulty in turning to the page designated. I read very poorly, because I could not hold the book steady, and the words on the page danced so that it was hard for me to catch them. I was then told to put down the book and was questioned in arithmetic. Professor C——h asked me a number of questions, the answers to which I knew perfectly well, yet all the answer I could make was "I don't know, sir." Professor C——h then talked kindly and said how important it was to me, that I answer the questions, because if I did not answer properly that I would be found deficient and sent home. I then said that the old cadets had told me he would "find" me, and I believed he would. After having said this I got courage to ask to be sent to the blackboard. My request was granted, and I had no trouble in writing answers to every question, or to solve any problem given me, but for the life of me I could



MESS HALL.

DINING ROOM.

CADET BARRACKS.



not turn my back to the board and tell what I had put on it; but fortunately I could point to anything called for. The preliminary examinations the next year were written, and they have been written ever since, which is decidedly the best, as some of my class were so badly frightened that they did not know what they said, and some who failed were graduates of good schools, or had passed splendid competitive examinations for their appointments. In a few days the result of the examination was announced, and I was happy to write home that I was one of the lucky ones to enter West Point, and be a "new Cadet" instead of a "Candidate." Those of us who were fortunate enough to pass were sent to the Commissary for "plebe-skins," that is, rubber overcoats, caps and white gloves, and we were measured for uniform, clothes and shoes, and for fear perhaps that we might get lazy another hour's drill, from 11 a. m. to 12 m., was given us. From now on we wore caps and white gloves at all infantry drills.

The new cadet whose name comes first in alphabetical order is the "class-marcher" whenever the class is called out by itself, and it is his duty to call the roll of the class and to report absentees. After our preliminary examination B——y became the class-marcher, and he marched us over to the Library, where we took the oath of allegiance.\* We were now assigned to Companies, the

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\*See Appendix, page ii.

tallest were put in A and D and the rest in B and C Companies, but the new cadets were still drilled by themselves in small squads, then in larger ones, and later on all in one squad as a company.

W——r of my class wore a plug hat when he reported, and he was sorry for it many times. He was the left file of Mr. H——d's squad. One day we were drilling on the Cavalry plain, and there were many ladies and gentlemen watching the drill. We were marching in line at double time, and Mr. H——d gave the command, "By the right flank, march." Three of us marched to the right, but Mr. W——r went off to the left all by himself. Everybody near laughed, even Mr. H——d suppressed a grin, and then scolded the new cadets for laughing in ranks. Mr. W——r chewed tobacco, and this, too, caused him many unhappy moments, but after having been repeatedly reprimanded for chewing tobacco and told to spit it out he quit the practice in ranks.

There was a young man who could not keep step, yet he tried hard to do so. When in front he threw everybody behind him out of step and at other times he would walk all over the heels of the man in front of him. I do not remember whether he was found deficient physically or mentally, but he was not there long. This reminds me of the "Awkward Squad." It was composed of those who were particularly slow in doing what they were told to do. Tired and sore as they were from

the frequent drills, I have seen members of the Awkward Squad practice alone, determined to get out of it, which, of course, they eventually did.

We studied the Blue Book, but the most of the regulations were learned by having them beaten into our heads by the old cadets. We did not then have a copy of the Drill Regulations to study, but we learned them in the same way that we learned most of the Regulations in the Blue Book.

We were now instructed in many things besides Squad Drill. For instance, we were informed that we would be reported for all delinquencies, that is, for all offenses committed against the Regulations, that the reports would be read out daily after parade, and be posted the next day in a certain place; that we must go there every day to see the list; that when there were reports against us we must copy the exact wording of each report and then write an explanation for it; that we must write as many explanations as there were reports against us, and further, that for all official communications we must use "Uniform Paper" (i. e., paper of a certain size) and no other.

New cadets are taught to use as few words as possible in their explanations. One evening at Dress Parade, a plebe raised his hand and of course he was reported for it, and the reason he gave in his explanation for raising his hand in ranks was, "Bug in ear."

The following illustrates the character of the reports posted against cadets, to-wit:

## REPORTS.

Floor not properly swept at A. M. inspection.

Bedding not properly folded at police inspection.

Late at dinner formation.

Calling for articles of food in an unnecessarily loud tone of voice at supper.

Gloves in clothes-press not neatly arranged at morning inspection.

Appearing in Mathematical Section Room with shoes not properly polished.

Inattention in Mathematical Section Room.

Shoulder belt too short at inspection.

Dust in chamber of rifle at inspection.

In dressing gown at A. M. inspection.

Shoes at side of bed not dusted at A. M. inspection.

Hair too long at weekly inspection.

Absent from formation for gymnasium at 12 M.

Orderly light in quarters after taps.

Late at reveille.

Absent from quarters 9 A. M.



Wheeling improperly by fours at drill.

Not seeing to it that a cadet who was late at breakfast was reported.

Coat not buttoned throughout at reveille.

Cap visor dusty at guard-mounting.

The discipline is very strict, more so by far than in the Army, but the enforcement of penalties for reports is inflexible rather than severe. The reports are made by Army Officers, and by certain cadets themselves, such as file-closers and section-marchers, and the cadets make by far the greatest number of reports against one another, but no cadet ever reports another except when it is his duty to do so. If he fails to report a breach of discipline he himself is reported for the neglect. Cadets may write explanations for all reports against them, but they must write an explanation for absence from any duty or from quarters; for communicating at blackboard in section room; for neglect of study or duty; for disobedience of orders; for failure to register for a bath, and for failure to report departure or return on permit where such report is required.

When the Commandant accepts an explanation as satisfactory he crosses off the report, and four days after the date of reports, for which either no explanations or unsatisfactory ones have been received, he forwards them to the Superintendent,

and he causes a certain number of demerits to be entered against a cadet for each report in a book kept for that purpose, and which the cadets may see once a week. Any cadet receiving more than one hundred demerits in six months is dismissed from the Academy for deficiency in discipline. The result is that cadets invariably write explanations, and the form now used is as follows:

WEST POINT, N. Y., ——— —, 18—.

Report—Bedding not properly folded at police inspection.

Explanation—Some one disarranged my bedding after I had piled it. I was at the sink at the time of the inspection, and I readjusted the bedding upon my return.

Respectfully submitted,

————— ———,

Cadet —, Co. —, — Class.

To the Commandant of Cadets.

For the first few weeks demerits are not counted against new cadets, but to teach them how to write them, explanations must be submitted for all reports. Whenever a cadet is reported absent, and he is on Cadet Limits, he is sure to write an

explanation stating this fact and anything more he may have to say, because if he fails to do so he is tried by Court-Martial.

A "permit" is a document that grants certain privileges to the cadet named in it. A map of "Cadet Limits" is posted where all may see it, and when a cadet desires to visit friends at the hotel or at an Officer's quarters, or go to the Dutch Woman's, i. e., the confectioner's, or to the dentist's, he must write an official letter to the Commandant of Cadets (or to the Adjutant of the Military Academy, as the case may be), setting forth what duty, if any, he wishes to be excused from, and the exact time he wishes. This letter will be returned with an endorsement granting all, a part or none of his request, and the cadet must govern himself accordingly.

From now on we had to make out a list of such articles as we wanted or were instructed to get from the Commissary. An account is kept by the Treasurer with each cadet, who is credited with his deposit, and also with his pay (see appendix, page xi), and he is charged for everything furnished him, such as board, washing, wearing apparel, bedding, books, gas, policing barracks, polishing shoes, etc. At his option a cadet is also charged for boats, hops, etc., and when out of debt with such luxuries as new clothes, hop gloves, hop shoes, or \$2.00 per month for confectioneries at the "Dutch Woman's."

As time wore away we felt less fatigue from drill, and found more pleasure in life, and letters home were quite cheerful.



## CHAPTER V.

## THE PLEBE IN CAMP.

ABOUT two weeks after I reported we were directed to prepare to go to Camp McPherson, a half mile or so from Barracks, out beyond the Cavalry plain, near old Fort Clinton. We were told just what articles to take for use in camp, and that we must put the balance of our effects in our trunks and carry them to the trunk rooms in the angle. We sorted out our camp articles, and each cadet made a bundle of his small things, and used a comforter or a blanket to hold them. D——n, M——s, and I, having arranged to tent together, we helped one another store away our trunks. When the call sounded to “fall in” we fell in with our bundles, brooms and buckets, and marched over to the camp. There were trees all around the camp site, with quite a grove at the guard tents. The tents were all pitched and they looked very pretty through the trees, with the trees and green parapet of Fort Clinton as a background, which could be seen over the tops of the white tents as we approached the camp. The tent cords were not fastened to pegs in the ground, but to pegs in cross-pieces supported upon posts about four feet

high, which brought the Company tents only four or five feet apart. All of the tents for cadets were wall tents, and each had a "fly" on it. There was a wooden floor, a gun rack, and a keyless locker (that is, a four-compartment long box), and a swinging pole hung about eighteen inches below the ridge pole of the tent, and nothing else in it. After the assignment, which, of course, was made according to rank, we proceeded to our respective tents, that were to be our homes till the 29th of August, the day to return to Barracks.

The "Yearlings" and first classmen, too, began to take a greater interest in the plebes than ever. They were anxious to teach them how to fix up their tents, and this is the way they did: "Come here, Plebe, and I'll show you how to fix up your tent. Untie those bundles, fold the blankets once one way then once the other way; that's it. Now pile them in the rear corner over there, farthest from the locker; put the folded edges to the front and inside; that's not right, turn them the other way; now that's right. Lay the pillows on the blankets, closed ends toward the locker; that's it; now fold the comforters just like you folded the blankets, and pile them the same way on top of the pillows; that's it. Why, you're an old soldier, ain't you? Straighten the pile a little, so that the edges are vertical; that's it. Now hang the mirror up there on the front pole; that's it. Put the washbowl out there against the platform, bottom



CADET TENT.





outward; that's it. Put the candle-box behind the rear tent pole. Put the white pants, underclothes, etc., in the locker. Throw the overcoats, gray pants, etc., on the pole. There, that'll do. Say, wait a minute. When you go after water, why I want some; just set the bucket down there by the washbowl when you come back." After having been given several lessons the plebes were permitted to fix up their own tents, and in a very short time every tent was ship-shape. The yearlings kindly showed the plebes how to clean rifles, too, and this is the way they did it: "Come here, Plebe, you'll soon be getting your guns, so I'll teach you how to clean yours; just get that gun over there in my rack; that's the one; get the cleaning materials in the candle-box, take out a rag, put oil on it; that's it. Lay the gun in your lap, muzzle to the left, half-cock the piece, open the chamber. Why, you're doing well. See the rust in the breech block? Well, get a small stick out of the candle-box, put a bit of the rag over it, pour a little oil on the rag, now be quick, rub it on the rusty place, rub hard, elbow grease is what counts most, so don't be afraid to use plenty of it," and so on, till the yearling's gun showed an improvement. "I'll call you again soon to give you another lesson; that'll do now." Strange as it may appear, even the first classmen condescended to teach us some things, and even the cadet officers showed us how to clean their breast plates. The old cadets never told us, in so many words, to do

anything of a menial character, but their broad hints and insinuating ways were very persuasive. Every day the plebes were called to the tents of the Army Officers in charge of cadet companies, and asked if they had any complaints to make against upper classmen, and the plebes invariably answered "No, sir."

We continued to take our meals in the Mess Hall, and we marched to and fro as usual, but as the distance was a half mile or more we were now cheered en route (notwithstanding the plebes still carried palms to the front) by the inspiring music of fifes and drums; and we now sat at tables with the old cadets, and had the pleasure of pouring water for them before helping ourselves, no matter how thirsty we might be, but such is the life of a plebe, and it is a necessary part of his training.

The first day in camp we were initiated in police duty; the other classmen turned out with us, and, as usual, they did the talking and we did the work. The detail from each company had a wheelbarrow, a shovel, and a broom. The grounds, to us plebes, seemed clean when we began, but we got half a wheelbarrow load of dirt all the same, which we dumped into "police hollow," near camp and just west of Fort Clinton. We gathered up burnt matches, cigar stumps, tobacco quids, bits of paper, etc. Whenever there was a sign of rain we turned out and loosened tent cords, and after a rain we turned out and tightened them—always by command, of course. We dreaded the nights

in camp, but we were not yanked often, unless we got too fresh or rapid, and then, of course, we had to be taken down.

The parade ground was changed during camp from the grassy plain in front of Professor's Row to the space between the guard tents and the west line of company tents. In fair weather the battalion stacked arms on the camp parade ground, and the colors were furled and laid on the center stack. The arms and colors, that is, the United States flag, were left there from after guard mount till 4 p. m., and a sentinel posted to require everybody crossing his post, which is known as the "Color Line," to salute the colors by lifting the cap.

We plebes were very anxious to get guns, but after we did get them we wished we did not have them, for we were again put into small squads and drilled three times a day, notwithstanding the fact that our right arms were very sore, and each rifle seemed to weigh a ton, and, again, we had to spend several hours a day, for weeks, cleaning the guns before they would pass inspection. Each cadet knows his own gun by the number on it. The upper classmen had already taught us how to clean their guns, so we knew something about cleaning our own, and they now were considerate enough to allow us more time to ourselves, and some of the plebes finished cleaning their guns in less than an hour's time. But, alas! at the first drill with arms the cadet instructors told them that their guns, cartridge boxes, and waist plates

were very dirty. After drill we set to work on them again, but still they were said to be dirty. In the course of time we were told that our guns were passable, and later on that they were in fair condition. We soon learned to attend to them immediately after a rain, as it was easier to clean them then than after they had stood awhile.

We were kept busy at first complying with requests (?) of upper classmen, but they were very considerate and dispensed with our services long enough to let us attend drills three times a day, police service twice a day, and to other military duties. We were still required, both in and out of ranks, to carry palms of the hands to the front, but nothing more was said about depressing the toes.

Cadets are encouraged to be patriotic, and they always celebrate Fourth of July. This year, as the Fourth fell on Sunday, the exercises were held on the next day.

# UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY.

July 5th, 18—.

President,

Cadet E. E. Wood.....Pennsylvania

Marshal of the Day,

Cadet J. Rockwell.....New York

## PROGRAMME.

Overture.

Prayer.

Music.

Reading of the Declaration of Independence,

Cadet E. M. Cobb.....California

Music.

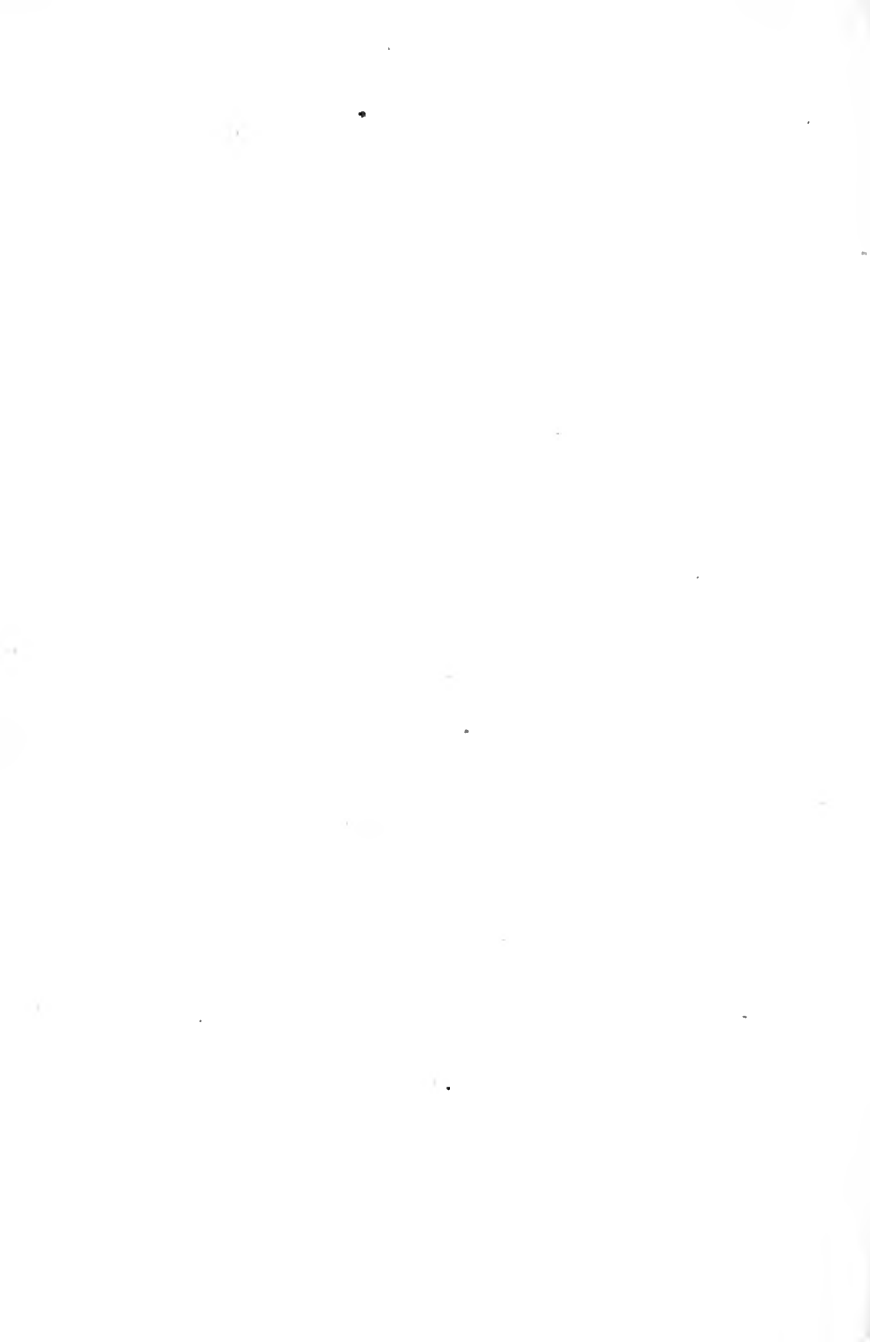
Oration,

Cadet E. S. Chapin.....Iowa

Music.

Benediction.

Music.



Plebe life was very trying, especially on H——e of my class, and he, being something of a poet, reduced his thoughts to writing, which he showed to his classmates. They said that he had expressed the situation very well, indeed. Some of the yearlings heard of H——e's poetry, so he was persuaded (?) to read it to them, and then to sing it. His poetry was so well received by the yearlings that the first classmen wanted to hear it, too, so at their invitation (?) H——e both read and sang it for them. And, at the request of a number of upper classmen, he made copies of his songs for them. Other plebes were requested (?) to make copies of the copies, and the following are copies of H——e's copies that were made for me by a plebe in my yearling camp, viz.:

#### THE BIG MENAGERIE.

Attention, all ye forlorn Plebes,  
 While the story I relate,  
 Of how I came to fall into  
 My present lost estate.  
 A moment only dry your tears  
 And listen unto me,  
 And I'll describe my experience  
 In this big menagerie.

The first day that I reported  
 My heart was full of joy,  
 And to all intents and purposes,  
 I was a bully boy.  
 A stunner in my native town,  
 I thought I'd easily  
 Upon my muscle go right through  
 This big menagerie.

## CADET LIFE AT WEST POINT.

But, ah! full soon that fatal day  
My crest began to fall,  
And my spirits came down mighty fast  
When I got to the Mess Hall.  
My folly and my sauciness,  
They soon took out of me,  
And made me sing a different tune,  
In this big menagerie.

They put me up in the window,  
Attention made me stand,  
And I had to dance and sing and speak  
At everyone's command.  
I tried to run, but soon found out  
That my rapidity  
Was not the kind of game to play,  
In this big menagerie.

The first time that I went on guard,  
The night was dark as pitch,  
They took my gun and then yanked me  
Right in Fort Clinton's ditch.  
The Corporal I called aloud,  
But not a step came he,  
And then I learned another lodge  
In this big menagerie.

But after all I'd been through,  
They said I was not tame,  
And that they would complete the cure,  
By giving me another name.  
They called me for some gay old cuss,  
Who'd been dead a century,  
And now I'm known as De la Rive,  
In this big menagerie.

All day I police, scrub and drill,  
Till my troubles make me weep,  
And when the day is over,  
I'm denied the boon of sleep,  
But all the night lie trembling,  
From Taps to Reveille,  
For fear I really will be yanked  
In this big menagerie.



My frolics, joys and amusements,  
Are all knocked into smash,  
And pleasures all concentrated are  
In eating Mess Hall hash.  
And should I meet a lady fair,  
I dare not speak to she,  
That would be too fast for a Plebe,  
In this big menagerie.

They call me beast and vile reptile,  
And goodness only knows,  
I'd rather be a kangaroo,  
In one of those circus shows,  
For all the real animals  
Are happier far than we,  
For they don't have any squad drill  
In their menagerie.

The lions, tigers, bears and wolves  
Can never feel our woes,  
For whoever heard of an elephant  
Depressing his great toes.  
And even the little monkeys  
Are happy, gay and free,  
And carry their hands just as they please  
In their menagerie.

But soon this camp will end, and then  
My troubles will be o'er,  
I'll drop the beast from off my name,  
And sing this song no more.  
But where'er I roam in years to come,  
On land or on the sea,  
I'll ne'er forget my sufferings  
In this big menagerie.

#### A PLEBE'S LAMENTATION.

Oh, Lord, will I never get done  
A rubbing on this rusty gun.

Chorus—

I wish I was at home,  
I wish I was there, too.

It makes me sigh, it makes me fret,  
To clean this rusty bayonet.

Chorus—

And all day long, in rain or shine,  
We've got these darned old tents to line.

Chorus—

There were a good many more verses to this song, and songs written by others of my class, but I have forgotten them.

Uniforms were issued to the plebes as fast as they were made, and in a few weeks all were uniformed. The only pocket in the whole suit was a watch pocket in the pants. We were permitted to carry a watch, but not a chain. Our handkerchiefs were tucked in the breasts of our coats. After getting uniforms we were sent to the trunk rooms to put away our cit clothes, as we were not allowed to keep them in either our tent or barrack room. In a few weeks the plebes were admitted to the battalion, at first to march to and from meals, and then for parades, but they still had to carry disengaged hands, palms to the front.

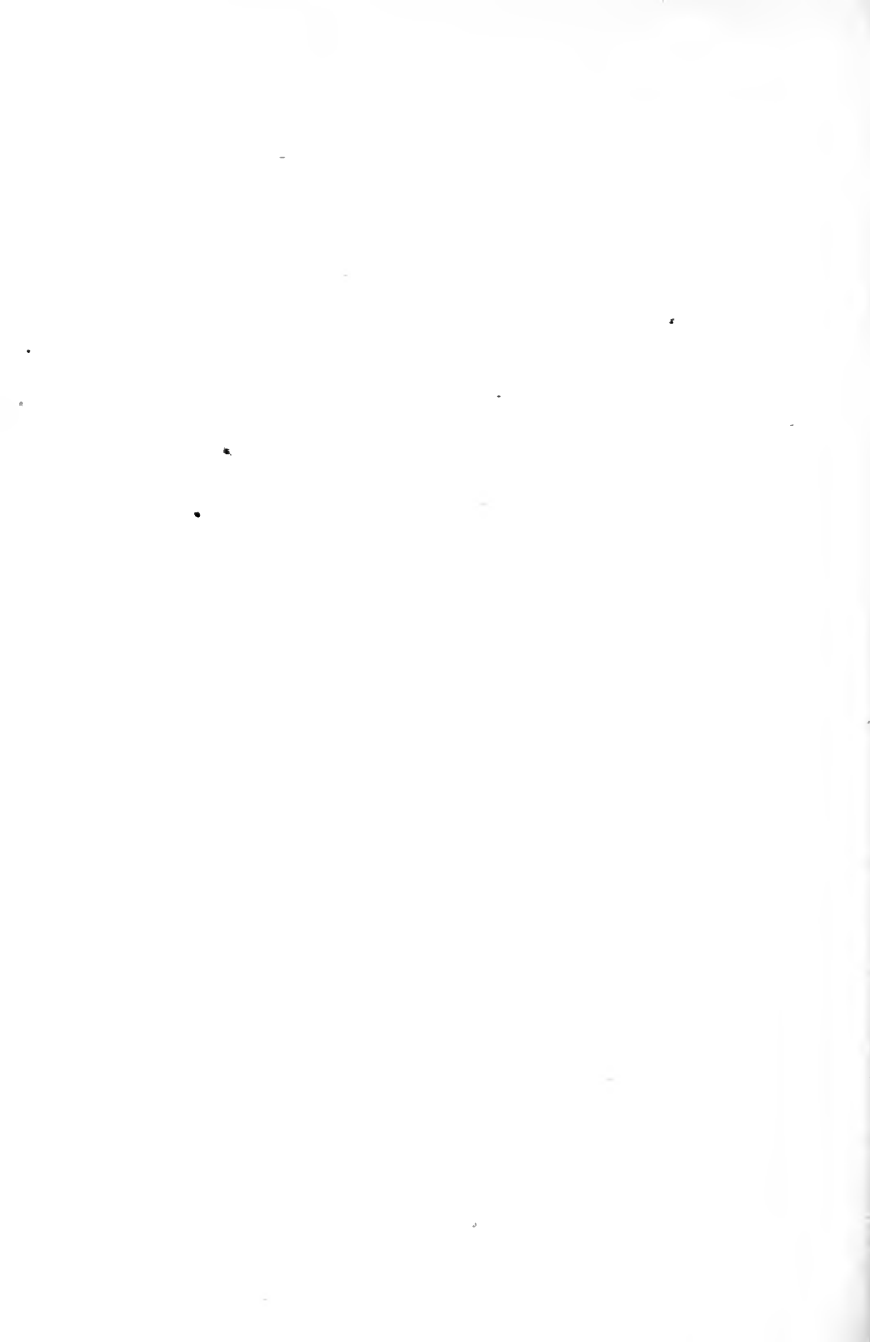
After supper we were permitted to bathe in the Hudson at Gee's Point, and many of us availed ourselves of the privilege. As I have said, soon after reporting, I wondered if the old cadets laced. Well, now, when bathing, I discovered they did not lace. Still, I wondered why old cadets' waists were so much smaller than plebes' waists.

Every day, especially during guard-mount, pa-

THE PLEASURE of your  
 company is requested  
 at the hops to be given by the  
 Corps of Cadets every Monday  
 Wednesday and Friday Evening  
 during the encampment

**MANAGERS**  
 FOR THE FIRST CLASS  
 P. S. BOMUS W. S. EDGERLY. S. WARREN FOUNTAIN  
 F. V. GREENE OTTO L. HEIN DEXTER W. PARKER  
 CLARENCE A. POSTLEY W. R. QUINAN EDW. G. STEVENS  
 FOR THE THIRD CLASS  
 JAMES ALLEN. W. N. CARTER. G. F. ELLIOTT.  
 HARRY A. LANDON. J. A. RUCKER. W. F. ZEILIN

**West Point**  
 N. Y. 5<sup>th</sup> July 18 —.



rades, and band practice, there used to be many ladies and other visitors under the trees near the guard tents. The upper classmen seemed to enjoy being with them, but the plebes were seldom wanted there. The plebes used to hear that there were hops three times a week during camp, but that is about all they knew of hops. However, they went to the old fencing room in the Academic Building and took dancing lessons, and as no ladies were admitted they danced with one another.

At last the time arrived for us to go on guard, for there was a chain of cadet sentinels all around the camp. We dreaded our first night on post, but each plebe had to experience it. Our guns were not loaded, and we had no cartridges; the rifle with the bayonet on is all we had to protect ourselves with. It was amusing afterwards to compare notes of our experiences. Some who had boasted most fared the worst. Some had had their rifles taken away, some had been tied to a tree, some rolled down into Fort Clinton ditch alongside of Posts No. 2 and No. 3. Others had been frightened by ghosts, or confused by numerous parties approaching at the same time from different directions. Some replies to the challenge being a band of Indians, a body of armed troops, and the Prince of Wales. Of course, the plebe would call for the corporal of the guard, but this official never got around in time to see anyone, except the sentinel. The poor plebe was then taken

to task for allowing himself to be disarmed, or for not detaining parties till the corporal arrived. When questioned as to who the parties were the answer invariably was "I could not recognize any of them." When the old guard marched off the next morning each member fired three shots at a target. When it came M——s' time to fire he was badly frightened because he had never fired a gun. And when asked why he did not close his left eye when aiming he said that no one had told him to close it.

On the 12th of August we again visited the trunk rooms, and this time to put away our dress coats, white pants, dress hats, etc., as we were to go on a campaign. A knapsack and a half of a shelter tent were issued to each cadet. After packing our knapsacks and getting everything, except our wall tents, in readiness, we fell in at the sound of the drum. Our wall tents were left standing with the walls fastened down and the flaps tied in front. To the time of "The Girl I Left Behind Me" we marched in a drenching rain about a dozen miles westward up into the mountains; halted, stacked arms, unslung knapsacks, and unloaded the big six-mule wagons that had followed us. We then pitched the "A" tents that were provided for our use now; we then dug a trench around each tent, and so as not to lie in the mud we cut boughs to sleep on. We then got our rifles and knapsacks, and were soon at home again, but this time in more contracted quarters. We were

now taught to live at Camp Lookout in regular army style, and as there is no delinquency book in the army we had none in this camp. We ate army rations and slept on the ground. We built camp fires, sang songs, and otherwise enjoyed our freedom, for no one said anything about palms to the front out there in the mountains. The camp was in the woods, between Long Pond and Round Pond. We obtained drinking water from one, and utilized the other to wash and to bathe in. We remained out there about ten days, and each cadet learned to do guard duty in the woods. Members of the guard had to cut poles for their shelter tents, and button two or more pieces together for use at night, and they were needed, too, as it rained more than half the time we were in the mountains. Between rains, when not on duty, we roamed through the woods and over the hills. There were many laurel bushes all about us, and one day a first classman said that he wanted a nice root to make a pipe, and that I could get it with a hatchet and spade. I took the hint and dug about half a dozen good roots. I put the two best ones in the breast of my gray jacket and gave the others to the first classmen. I afterwards made myself two fine pipes, and I have one of them now. Years afterwards that first classman and I met, and the first thing I did was to show him my pet pipe and thank him for it. He admired the pipe and my cheek, too, for having kept the best root.

As soon as we returned to Camp McPherson palms of the hands were turned to the front again and the usual routine there resumed.

Some of the yearlings said that certain of the plebes had become "too fresh" out in the mountains, and as the ordinary methods would not tame them down a few fights in Fort Clinton were necessary. Seconds were chosen, and soon nearly every cadet in camp knew that there would be a fight in Fort Clinton on a certain day during the supper hour. Fort Clinton is just across Posts Nos. 2 and 3. Those who desired to witness a fight assembled at the ice water tank, near which the Posts of Nos. 2 and 3 meet. Then when the two sentinels on these posts were far apart and their backs toward one another (which is against the rule) across the posts would dash the Fort Clinton party, and strange to say neither sentinel would see any unauthorized person or persons cross his post. When the referee calls time the principals and seconds are in place and the fight begins. Fists only are used in these fights, and as soon as either side calls enough, or either principal fails to come to time, the fight is over. All return to camp, the bruises are bathed, and if necessary one or both principals go to the hospital, and the sick report the next morning shows one or two names with "contusions" as the cause of the disability. Unless the army officers on duty at the Point have "official knowledge" of a cadet fight no notice is taken of it. When a dispute arises that only a



## I. O. C. B.

The pleasure of your company is respectfully solicited at a Hop Extraordinary, to be given on the evening of July 29th, under the auspices of the "Confirmed Bachelors" of the Class of 18—.

F. G. SCHWATKA,  
JAS. E. SHORTELE,  
U. G. WHITE,  
Managers.

West Point, July 28, 18—.



fight will settle and the parties to the dispute are unevenly matched the result may be one or two fights. The offending cadet must fight, and a classmate of the other cadet about his size and strength is selected to do battle with him. Sometimes the offended cadet must fight a man of his size, and then there are two fights.

We plebes were sent to the river a number of times to assist the first classmen to build pontoon bridges, and we rendered very valuable assistance, too, by carrying all heavy timbers used and helping to get the boats in place for the timbers to be laid upon them.

#### RETURN OF THE FURLOUGH CLASS.

There's a stir in Camp, as all observers may see,  
'Tis a moment of interest, a moment of glee.

The "Furloughs" are coming, and now must be near;  
There is dust, there is shouting, the "Furloughs" are here.

We welcome you back to the Camp and the plain,  
There your favorite "Tac" will drill you again.

The 28th of August is a day every graduate remembers, for it is then the furloughmen return. I can see them now rushing into camp. That evening there was a great time out on the color line; we plebes were turned out for the last time to amuse upper classmen. H—e and others sang their songs. Some of them had been sung so often that everybody knew them and joined in. The evening was a perfect one, and there were

many ladies under the trees near the guard tents, who heaved a sigh to think that all gayeties were over at West Point until the next June. The following are some of the songs that were so often sung during my cadet days, to-wit:

Old Black Joe,	My Country,
Dixie,	Annie Laurie,
Marching Through Georgia,	Red, White and Blue,
Tramp, Tramp, Tramp,	Home, Sweet Home,
Hail Columbia,	Suane River,
Star Spangled Banner,	Auld Lang Syne.

#### ARMY BLUE.

We've not much longer here to stay,  
 For in a year or two  
 We'll bid farewell to "Cadet Gray,"  
 And don the "Army Blue."

Chorus—

Army Blue, Army Blue,  
 We'll don the Army Blue,  
 We'll bid farewell to Cadet Gray,  
 And don the Army Blue.

To the ladies who come up in June,  
 We'll bid a fond adieu,  
 And hoping they'll be married soon,  
 We'll don the Army Blue.

Chorus—

Now here's to the man who wins "the cup,"  
 May he be kind and true,  
 And may he bring "our godson" up  
 To don the Army Blue.

Chorus—

## BENNY HAVENS, OH!

Come, fill your glasses, fellows, and stand up in a row,  
To singing sentimentally, we're going for to go;  
In the Army there's sobriety, promotion's very slow,  
So we'll sing our reminiscences of Benny Havens, Oh!

Oh! Benny Havens, Oh! Oh! Benny Havens, Oh!  
So we'll sing our reminiscences of Benny Havens, Oh!

Let us remember, comrades, when to our posts we go,  
The ties that must be cut in twain, as o'er life's sea we row,  
Hearts that now throb in unison must moulder down below,  
So let us take a parting cup at Benny Havens, Oh!

Oh! Benny Havens, Oh! etc.

To our kind old Alma Mater, our rock-bound Highland home,  
We'll cast back many a fond regret, as o'er life's sea we  
roam,  
Until our last battle-field the lights of heaven shall glow,  
We'll never fail to drink to her and Benny Havens, Oh!

Oh! Benny Havens, Oh! etc.

May the army be augmented, promotion be less slow,  
May our Country, in her hour of need, be ready for the foe,  
May we find a soldier's resting-place beneath a soldier's blow,  
With space enough beside our graves for Benny Havens, Oh!

Oh! Benny Havens, Oh! etc.

Come, fill up to our Generals, God bless the brave heroes,  
They're an honor to their country, and a terror to her foes;  
May they long rest on their laurels and trouble never know,  
But live to see a thousand years, at Benny Havens, Oh!

Oh! Benny Havens, Oh! etc.

When you and I and Benny, and all the others, too,  
Are called before the final board our course of life to view,  
May we never "fess" on any point, but coldly "max" it through,  
And join the Army of the blest, at Benny Havens, Oh!

Oh! Benny Havens, Oh! etc.





THE ACADEMIC.





## CHAPTER VI.

## THE PLEBE IN BARRACKS.

THE next morning we took our bundles, buckets, and brooms to barracks, and upon returning to camp we unfastened the tent cords and held up the canvas by the poles, and, at the tap of the drum at 12 o'clock, every tent was lowered to the ground, and "Camp McPherson" was no more. We then "fell in," and to the tune of "The Girl I Left Behind Me" marched to barracks, leaving the summer visitors standing under the trees near where the guard tents had been.

There were rooms enough so that every two cadets could have one together. Roommates having been chosen and rooms selected (according to rank, of course,) each cadet went to his own room, and there he found two single iron bedsteads and a double clothes-press. The old cadets got the balance of their effects (such as cadets are permitted to have in their rooms) from the trunk rooms, while the plebes got the articles they had there, and the balance, such as mattresses and tables, they went to the Commissary for, and carried them across the plain. Every one obtained at the Commissary the text-books he needed before Christmas, and by night all rooms were in or-

der. The return to barracks is a great day for plebes, for then they quit carrying palms to the front.

The "Seps" arrived about this time, and those who were admitted were assigned to rooms, and they at once became a part of the fourth class. "Seps" are candidates, who, for some good reason, did not report in June. (See appendix.) They began recitations with the rest of the plebes, but for weeks they attended drill in squads by themselves. Notwithstanding the fact that Seps escape the many trials and tribulations of plebe camp, in escaping it, they miss one of the most valuable parts of cadet life, as it is an experience which most old graduates look back upon with pleasure. After having been through the course of deviling, or hazing, as practiced in my day, I am a believer in the system, because I believe it makes young men manly and self-reliant. I never saw bodily injury inflicted upon a plebe, but I do not call bodily injury deviling. I call that cruelty, and cruelty should be severely punished. But times have changed at the Academy since I left it. Now after candidates have reported at the Adjutant's office they are sent to the Army Officer in charge of new cadets. And it is his duty to personally instruct them respecting their rights and duties in their relations to old cadets and to the cadets on duty over them. He causes to be read to them the present regulations pertaining to new cadets and explains to them what is meant by "Cadet

Limits." Candidates are also informed that they must not submit to hazing, and that they must promptly report to the Commandant or to the Army Officer over them any attempt at hazing on the part of old cadets. But they must be respectful to all and perfectly subordinate and obedient to the cadets on duty over them.

No more shall Plebes be deviled,  
And yearlings can't be seen,  
For there's now a law against  
Hazing the Plebes so green.

The penalties for hazing are very severe, and several cadets have been dismissed from the Academy for engaging in it. A recent act of Congress says: "Any cadet dismissed for hazing shall not be eligible to reappointment."

White pants were very pretty for camp, but now that the hops were over and the visitors gone the cadets had to work, so on the first of September they appeared in their gray working clothes.

The daily routine from September 1st to about June 20th is as follows: Reveille at 5:45 A. M. (on Sunday at 6:30); roll call; police call five minutes after reveille; sick call fifteen minutes after reveille; then clean arms or study or take physical exercise; breakfast at 6:15; recreation except for the guard, which is mounted, at 7:15; then study and recitations from 8:00 A. M. to 1:00 P. M.; dinner at 1:00; recreation; then study and recitations from 2:00 to 4:00; then generally military exercises for about an hour; then about half hour

recreation, followed by retreat parade at about 6:00; supper; recreation; then study from about 7:30 to 9:30; taps at 10:00; then lights out till reveille the next morning. Rooms are inspected at police call; between 8 and 11 a. m.; 11 a. m. and 1 p. m.; 2 and 4; four times between 7:30 and 9:30; again at taps; and once more between taps and reveille. In September and May there are Infantry drills; in October and April there are Artillery drills; in every month from September first to June first there are Cavalry drills; from December first to April first there is exercise in the gymnasium or in dancing. Saturday afternoon is for recreation except between 2 and 2:30 during the weekly inspection of the battalion. On Wednesday after 4 p. m. there are no drills, the time being given for recreation. On Sundays there are no recitations and no military duties, except guard and inspection of quarters at 9:45 a. m., and the time for recreation is a little longer than usual; the cadets march to and from church; all wear white gloves, white belts and those entitled to do so swords, which (swords excepted) are not removed during service, some of the cadets are members of the choir. Visiting between cadets is allowed only during recreation hours.

The gymnasium is open to cadets daily, except Sundays, from 1:30 to 2 p. m.; 4:00 to supper mess parade, and on Saturdays afternoons and evenings until tattoo.

We were arranged into sections of from eight

to ten cadets to the section, the arrangement of upper classmen being made according to class standing,\* as determined at the last examination, while the arrangement of the plebes was alphabetical. The first cadet in each section was the section-marcher, that is, he marched the section to and from the section room. The section-marchers were notified what the first lessons would be, and the hours for recitations, and they then notified the members of their sections. The studies\*\* for the fourth class were Mathematics and French, and in addition to these we had instruction in Fencing, and for this the sections were larger than as stated above. One half the class attended recitations or fencing at a time, and the other half had to be in their rooms during Call to Quarters. To let the Inspectors know when cadets are at recitations the following form is used:

## HOURS OF RECITATION.

Cadet.....	4th Class.
Mathematics .....	From 8 A. M. to 9:30 A. M.
Use of the sword, etc...	From 12 M. to 1 P. M.
Modern Languages.....	From 3 P. M. to 4 P. M.

Each cadet obtained a blank form (and there is a special form for each class), put his name on it in blockletters, filled in his hours of recitation and put it on the mantel, and he also put his name in block letters over his alcove, on the orderly board, on

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\*See Appendix

\*\*See Appendix page xvii.

his clothes-press, and on his gun-rack. Every cadet not in his room at inspection, and not at recitation at the time, was reported absent, unless his room-mate was in and could properly account for the absence. We at first thought that our studies, being so few, would be easy, but when we saw the great long lessons and had experienced the thoroughness required at recitations, we changed our opinions, and decided that much hard study was necessary.

Promptly at eight o'clock on the morning of September first, the bugle was sounded for sections to form. One half of each class "fell in." The Cadet Officer of the Day commanded—"Front, Call your rolls." Line was formed in the area of barracks, first classmen were nearest the Academic Building, next to them were sections of the second class, next third classmen and then the plebes. Each section-marcher facing his section, called his roll and faced to the front, then beginning with the ranking section of the first class, the section-marchers reported. The Officer of the Day then commanded "March off your sections." If there were any absentees not excused, he hunted them up and sent them to their section rooms. The sections marched to the Academic Building, and each went to the room previously assigned, the members of each section hung their caps in the hall on hooks near the door and then filed into the room. The section-marcher took post near the center of the room, facing the instructor, who

was seated on the platform opposite to the door. The members of the section went one half to the right, and the other half to the left, in front of two benches. The section-marcher saluted and reported, "All are present, Sir," or, "Mr. —— is absent, sir," the instructor returned the salute and then the cadets sat down, the section-marcher taking seat on the right of the first half of his section. On a blackboard behind the instructor, was written the lesson for the next day, and each cadet noted it. The instructor then called Mr. ——, who took post in the center of the room facing the instructor. The instructor assigned to him a topic in the lesson, care being required on the part of the cadet to understand the topic which is called his "enunciation." When he understood it, he went to a certain blackboard, and in the upper right hand corner wrote his name and number thus—Brown 1. The instructor called up another cadet who, after understanding his enunciation, went to the next board, and wrote his name and number, thus—Smith 2, and so on. Topics in the lesson of the day were assigned to the first four, and topics in the lesson of the day before were assigned to three or four others. Then one was called who took post in the center of the room, and the instructor questioned him for ten minutes or more upon such parts of either lesson that he elected, and when through said "That'll do," when this cadet returned to his seat. The cadets at the boards wrote on them such work as they wished

pertaining to their own subjects and when ready to recite, each took a pointer in his right hand and stood at ease facing the instructor. Beginning with the cadet who was ready and had the smallest number, when he was called upon to recite the cadet, said: "I am required to" and then gave his enunciation, after which he proceeded in his own words. If the instructor was satisfied with the recitation, he said, "that'll do" and the cadet faced about, laid down his pointer, cleaned his board, and took his seat; but if the instructor was not satisfied with the recitation, he asked such questions as he deemed proper to draw out, if possible, further information on the subject, and when through, said, "That'll do." This drawing out process is necessary with plebes, until they learn what is required of them in the way of recitations. No communication between cadets is allowed in the section room. When the time expired the instructor said, "That'll do, gentlemen; section's dismissed." If the bugle was sounded before all had recited, those at the board who were ready to recite and had all necessary work on the board, were marked the same as if they had recited. The cadets filed out of the room, got their caps and "fell in," then marched to the area where the line was formed and there the section was dismissed. The mark for a perfect recitation is a 3, 2.5 is a good mark, 2 is fair, 1.5 is medium, 1 poor, .5 very poor, and a zero a complete failure. Recitations go on every day except Saturday after-



noons and Sundays. On Monday the marks of the previous week were posted so that the cadets could see them. The instructor never told the cadets what marks he gave them, and he could not excuse a cadet from recitation. A cadet who was sick enough to require it was taken into the hospital, or by the surgeon excused from reciting, but a cadet excused from reciting had to go to and remain in the section room, and there report to the instructor that he was excused. Nothing is gained by not reciting, because every cadet must make satisfactory recitations and pass the examinations in January and June or be found deficient. At the end of the fifth or sixth week, and at times after that, transfers from one section to another were made, and some cadets were sent up and others down to other sections. By Christmas, the plebe class was pretty well dissipated by transfers.

Days, weeks and months passed with a firm, steady grind. In my day up at 5, but now 5:45 a. m., and nothing but study, recitations and drill till 9:30 p. m., except during the short half hour for recreation after each meal, the welcome half holiday on Saturdays and the change of routine on Sundays. No visitors at the Point, no hops, no nothing but hard study and drill to look forward to until the next June. It is true that Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's are always acceptable days to a cadet, but he generally eats so much turkey then, that he receives a poor mark at recitations the next day.

Not long before examination the instructor selects as many topics as there are cadets in his section and writes each topic on a separate piece of paper, turns them face down, mixes them, and then numbers them; number one being for the first cadet in the section, number two for the second, and so on, or otherwise mixes them so that no partiality be shown on examination.

Of course we could not study all of the time set apart for study, so we often devised ways and means to lighten our burdens.

All of our coats buttoned up to the chin and the white collars of my day were made so that we had to fold them lengthwise and pin them on the coat. As white shirts were not used to fasten the collar to we quit wearing them, and pinned our cuffs to the inside of the coat sleeves. We got the knack of dressing down to a fine point, no cadet wore suspenders then, so all we had to do for reveille or tattoo, was to jump into our pants, stick our feet into our oldest shoes, from which the strings had been removed, and called "reveilles," put on the coat and cap to be worn and hustle, buttoning up just before going out of the hall-door. Two minutes gave us ample time to get from our rooms to the line in the area. Now the cadets are required to wear white shirts and the style of the white collar having been changed it requires a white shirt to fasten it to.

A cadet generally carries his lead pencil stuck into his coat near the throat, but I made a little

pocket on the underside of the tail of my dress-coat, just big enough for a little pen knife and a pencil an inch and a half long, and I never got "skinned" for it either. In my day, the last section was called "the Immortals" but I am told that the "Goats" have captured the name I once knew so well.

For many years, "Old Bentz" blew the bugle calls for recitations and mid rain or snow, he never missed a call, he blew it first on the north side of the Barracks, near the "Sally Port," and then in the area. Many a cadet has stood at the blackboard, not ready to recite, praying for old Bentz to blow; once in a while he would succeed in "bugling it," that is, avoid a recitation, but as the instructors have all been cadets themselves, the poor fellow was generally called upon to recite and got 1.5 or less for his pains.

A day or two after returning to barracks I was on post one evening in the hall of the old "sixth div." when D——m, of my class, who lived in that "div." passed through the hall with his coat unbuttoned. Of course I reported him for it. The next day the report was on the list of delinquencies read out to the battalion by the cadet adjutant. Aftersupper that evening another classmate called on me and asked what I had against D——m, I said I had nothing against him and I wanted to know why he asked. He replied that D——m was very angry with me for having reported him for "coat unbuttoned in hall of barracks." I was sur-

prised and said that I had to report him or tell a lie to the officer or corporal of the guard. Up to that time D——m had not been on guard in barracks and he did not know the orders, so he consulted an upper classman about the report and learned that I had done my duty. Then he came to me and said, "I sent a friend to challenge you but find that you are right and I wrong, so I want to beg your pardon." Had I not have reported D——m I would have gotten into serious trouble, because the cadets themselves have no use for a liar or a thief. As I have said the rooms of barracks are never locked, hence any cadet will promptly report another for stealing and the thief is summarily dealt with by the authorities.

In barracks sentinels are posted in the eight halls, and they walk post only during meal hours, evening call to quarters, and Sunday call to quarters. When a relief is to be taken off post and no new sentinels are to be posted, such as after meals and at tattoo, the corporal of the relief on post, beginning at the first division hall, calls, "No. 1 Off," marches him to the second division and calls, "No. 2 Off," and so on until the eight sentinels are off, the relief is then marched to the guard house, and there dismissed. The spirit of deviltry used to crop out in the average fourth classman, as soon as his plebe camp was over, and he often laid awake at night devising ways and means for sweet revenge upon the next class or even upon the "Seps" of his own class, before they became ac-

quainted with one another. One night a June plebe discovered that the sentinels on Posts 1, 2 and 3, were Seps of his own class, and that they were on guard for their first time. A happy thought came to this June plebe. He put on his overcoat, turned the collar up to hide his face, got his rifle, and just before time for the Corporal to take off his Relief at tattoo, this plebe took off the Relief himself. The first three sentinels being green Seps "fell in" without a suspicion of anything wrong, and the older cadets of the Relief knowing that it was about time to be relieved, also fell in. Just as the June plebe was approaching the guard house with the Relief, Lieutenant K—g saw the Corporal of this Relief in the guard house watching the clock, hence he knew that some devilment was up. The plebe saw that the Lieutenant saw him, so he fled to his room, with the Lieutenant after him and the members of the Relief ran back to their posts. The plebe was caught and he walked "extras" for many a Saturday afternoon for his fun; and the Corporal was reduced to the ranks for allowing his Relief to be improperly relieved.

Cadets do not salute one another except on occasions of ceremony prescribed by the regulations. Plebes address one another as Jones or Smith, but they say Mr. Jones and Mr. Smith in speaking of them to an officer, or to an upper classman. In speaking to or of an officer, they use his title, but in speaking to or of an upper classman, they say

Mr. White or Mr. Black. Upper classmen address one another as White and Black, but they say Mr. White or Mr. Black in speaking of them to an officer or to a plebe. In speaking to or of an officer they use his title, but in speaking to or of a plebe, they say Mr. Jones or Mr. Smith. Officers in speaking to or of a cadet say Mr. Jones or Mr. White. Cadet titles are used only by the cadets having them, and then only in their permits and explanations, thus—Cadet Corporal, Cadet Sergeant, etc. Except officially, officers and cadets rarely speak to one another. At first it seemed very strange to recite to an officer for months, and to pass him on the plain without a friendly word being exchanged, the military salute being the only recognition. It is best that it is that way, as it avoids intimacy and favoritism.

When the first snow fell, I was greatly amused to see one of my classmates who had never seen it snow. He ran out into the area bare-headed (and was reported for being in the area without cap). He held out his hands and then opened his mouth to catch the flakes; it was a soft fine snow and melted as soon as it touched anything, so he could not catch any of the flakes, yet he could see them in the air and he appeared dumbfounded.

Now that we did not have to carry palms of the hands to the front we used to walk more about the post. I say walk, because we were not allowed to ride. We found our way occasionally to the Dutch-woman's, near the postoffice (as no permits were

needed to go there in my day), where cadets having a little change, or who, being out of debt, could get ice cream, cakes, pies, etc. On Saturday afternoons we went down "Flirtation Walk," a beautiful stroll along the Hudson, or up to Cro' Nest, the highest peak for miles around, or to old Fort Putnam, on a hill west of the Barracks, and once in a while to Kinsley's orchard. The only reason I can think of having gone to Kinsley's is, that it was then "off limits," and the Regulations said cadets caught off limits should be dismissed, or otherwise less severely punished. Christmas season had much in store for us. We received boxes of sweetmeats from home, we had a theatrical performance in the Mess Hall, and some of us, and I was one, had a three days "leave" from the Point. This leave was granted to cadets having not over six demerits for the past six months. But few cadets obtained leaves, and those who did were envied by the less fortunate fellows. Everybody enjoyed the boxes from home, because cadets are proverbially generous, and divide their good things with those who do not receive boxes. Many were "skinned" and given demerits for grease upon their floors after the boxes came. The cadets are not now permitted to receive Christmas boxes. An entertainment was given on New Year's Eve, in the Mess Hall. A temporary stage was erected, and all of the actors, "actresses" and members of the orchestra were cadets.

## A PARODY ON HOHENLINDEN.

At West Point, when the sun was low,  
All spotless lay the untrodden snow,  
And dark as winter was the flow  
Of Hudson rolling rapidly.

But West Point saw another sight.  
Loud groans were heard at dead of night,  
And plebeians howled with wild affright,  
Whilst dreaming of Geometry.

'Twas morn, but on that luckless day  
The morning brought no cheering ray,  
To pierce the mist of Algebra,  
Or clear it of perplexity.

In glittering armor, bright arrayed,  
Each teacher drew his battle blade,  
And furious each plebeian made,  
To witness such pomposity.

Then shook the hills with thunder riven,  
As each plebe to the blackboard driven,  
Despairing of all hopes of Heaven,  
In view of his deficiency

And fainter still his hopes did grow,  
When he received a big zero;  
His throbbing bosom rent with woe,  
The tears came rolling rapidly.

"Immortals" falter! On! ye brave!  
Who rush to glory or the grave,  
Wave! plebeians; All thy banners wave!  
And charge that Trigonometry.

The lesson o'er—the hovering cloud  
Hath burst in torrents, wild and loud,  
And buried in one common shroud  
The essence of stupidity.

The "found" shall part, no more to meet,  
For Math has been their winding sheet,  
And every "hash" they now shall eat  
Brings curses to the memory.



# PROGRAMME

OF THE

**Entertainment Given by the  
U. S. Corps of Cadets,**

**NEW YEAR'S EVE., 18....  
WEST POINT.**

Overture ..... Orchestra

## PART I.

### PADDY MILES, THE LIMERICK BOY.

(A drama of Corinthian lightness.)

#### DRAMATIS PERSONAE.

Paddy Miles.....Cadet Shortelle  
(The Greek.)

Dr. Coates.....Cadet Wood  
(Spooney and Fidgety.)

Henry, his son.....Cadet Cobb  
(No joke here.)

Job, a gardener.....Cadet Guard  
(Biles with rage.)

Reuben.....Cadet Hall  
(Randy—O! High.)

Mrs. Fidget.....Cadet Paddock  
(See joke on Dr. Coates.)

Jane.....Cadet Fornance  
(The Girl of the period.)

Guitar Duet.....Cadets Evans and Harrington

Music ..... Orchestra

PART II.

**DARK TRAGEDY OF OTHELLO, THE MOOR OF VENICE.**

Othello.....Cadet Davis

(Ye Swarthy Moor.)

Desdemona.....Cadet McDonald

(As was gone back on.)

Brabantio.....Cadet McGinniss

Duke.....Cadet "Doyle"

Senators, Assassins, Collectors of Internal Revenue, etc., by  
the Company.

Music ..... Orchestra

## PART III,

**THE LIGHTSOME FARCE OF GRIMSHAW, BAGSHAW  
AND BRADSHAW.**

Peter Grimshaw.....Cadet Williams  
(Christened Peter after his Aunt Sarah.)

John Bagshaw.....Cadet Goddard  
("Trust him not.")

BRADSHAW !!!.....Cadet Fountain  
(Bastante dicho—"wich" it is Spanish.)

Towser.....Cadet Wood  
(Characteristics: Heart flinty, Conchoidal fracture.)

Fanny, a milliner.....Cadet Townsend  
(A-lass! not a Millionaire.)

Emily, Towser's niece.....Cadet Birney  
(Same at same.)

Music ..... Orchestra

## PART IV.

## "DARKER HERE."

## MINSTRELS, BY THE CADET BAND.

## 1.

Overture, "Les Dames de Seville,".....	Cadet Band
The Bell Goes Ringing for Sarah.....	Solo and Chorus
Linda Polka.....	Cadet Band
Little Maggie May.....	Solo and Chorus
We Parted by the River Side.....	Company
Selection.....	Cadet Band
Clog Dance.....	Cadet Bassett

## 2.

Selections.....	Cadet Band
Fairy Moonlight.....	Quartette
West Point Polka and Selection.....	Cadet Band
My Christmas Leave.....	Solo
Et Bonde Cryllup.....	Cadet Band
Rottle Tum Tootle Tum Tay.....	Solo and Chorus
Galop Militaire.....	Cadet Band

## NO HURDLES.

## "GENERAL REGULATIONS."

Those unable to secure seats will be permitted to visit the Guard-house, where they will find amusement during the entire entertainment in the perusal of the delinquences posted there.

In consideration of the almost perfect disguise which may be effected through the magic agency of burnt cork, by which even the dignified features of our Professors can be effectually concealed, we would enjoin upon the audience a respect for gravity during the minstrel performance; and the managers would take this opportunity of thanking the "Heads of Departments" for the very affable manner in which they have consented to contribute, by their Terpsichorean and Ethiopian efforts to the evening's amusement.

Owing to the probability of the hall being inspected by the "Officer in charge," after the Battalion has returned to Barracks, the managers earnestly solicit the destruction of all vestiges of this "Feast of reason," as it is not mentioned on the "Cadets' Bill of Fare" for this date. First classmen are recommended to preserve the "Flow of soul" for use to-morrow, in case the Superintendents may not be pleased to release them from "pledge."

The managers respectfully call attention to their endeavors to produce that long desired "mean" equally removed from "Corinthian lightness, and Egyptian massiveness."

Should the performers attempt to "consume time," or the enthusiasm of the audience be kindled to such an extent as to create apprehension for the safety of the building, the services of the Fire Department, under the able management of its efficient "Chief Engineer," will be called into requisition—(provided the nozzle can be found.)

## MANAGERS:

S. W. FOUNTAIN,  
E. M. COBB,

R. A. WILLIAMS,  
A. H. RUSSELL,  
A. E. WOOD.

The semi-annual examination commenced right after New Years and when the class standing\* was announced, about thirty cadets were found deficient, and discharged. At least half the deficient ones were in my class, and the balance in the other three classes. Those near the foot of my class, who passed, but about whom doubts had been entertained as to their ability to get through, were now furnished with warm cloth overcoats of the regulation cadet gray. The sections were rearranged according to the standing determined by the examinations, text books for the next five months were drawn, lessons assigned and studies resumed. Shortly after our class standing had been published, the class was sent to the Library, where we again took the oath of allegiance, and in due time afterwards each fourth classman received his "cadet warrant."

The plebes now began to make the best show they could both about their rooms and in their personal appearance. Those who could do so procured curtains for the windows, alcoves and clothes presses, all turkey red of course as that was the regulation color. When they got new clothes, they were particular about the fit, especially of the dress coats, as their waists had grown more shapely, caused by wearing close fitting clothes and belts, which required the chest and not the abdomen to be used for breathing. They had their old dress coats made smaller in the waist, too.

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\*See Appendix xx.

Cadets having a taste for music were permitted to have such musical instruments as banjos, guitars and flutes, and during "release from quarters" they could practice. Musical spirits were soon brought together, and after the players became proficient they attracted attention. Aside from those who played upon instruments, there were some who had very good voices. When pleasant spring evenings came, the musicians would often assemble on one of the front steps of the Barracks and their sweet music and songs attracted all other cadets. Often would the officers, their ladies and the few visitors at the Point at that season of the year, stroll near the cadet Barracks to hear music and songs, and even Old Bentz would look at his watch a dozen times and wait till the last second to sound "Call to Quarters." One evening, Christine Nilsson, the famous "Swedish singer," who was visiting the Point, was so attracted by the singing of the cadets that she consented to sing for the whole corps on condition that the cadet quartette would sing for her. Her proposition was accepted and the Mess Hall was used for the purpose. Of course we were charmed by her sweet voice and she complimented the quartette, too, and Cadet W——r in particular. Miss Nilsson told him that he ought to cultivate his voice and that if he would resign she herself would pay for his musical education in Europe. Cadet W——r thanked her for her generous offer, but declined to accept it. Miss Nilsson then said that



TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:



Know ye, That the **PRESIDENT** has been pleased to appoint  
\_\_\_\_\_ a **CADET** in the  
Military Service of the **UNITED STATES**, to rank as such from the  
\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 18\_\_ . He is therefore to be  
received with all the consideration attached to such appointments.

Given under my hand at the **WAR DEPARTMENT**, this \_\_\_\_\_  
day of \_\_\_\_\_, in the year of our Lord one thousand  
eight hundred and \_\_\_\_\_, and of the **INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES**  
the \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of War.



the cadets must pay for her singing, and that she would make the collection at once. She was promptly informed that cadets were not allowed to have money, and that they did not even have pockets in their clothes. She replied every cadet had with him that which she wanted, namely a bell-button, and she was particular about the one too, and said, "I want the spooney button, the one from over the heart." She produced a string and we filed past her and each cadet gladly paid her price. The officers present on this occasion neglected their duty for not reporting every cadet, for "a button off dress coat in Mess Hall." About once a month on Saturday evenings during the winter the band gave orchestra concerts at which cadets could be present.

One day, S——s, one of my classmates, took sick with typhoid fever, and was confined to bed in the hospital for weeks. We took turns sitting up at night with him. When he became dangerously ill, his parents were notified, and they came at once and were with him some days before he died. An order was published announcing his death, and the loss of a valuable member of the corps, and directed as a mark of respect to his memory, that all cadets should wear the usual badge of mourning; that is, a four-inch band of black crape around the left arm, above the elbow, for a period of thirty days, and that the flag should be at half-staff on the day of the funeral. The pallbearers were chosen from his class and the funeral services held

in the little chapel. The coffin was carried from the chapel, arms were presented, the band played an appropriate air; and then the coffin was laid upon an artillery caisson draped with the stars and stripes. We marched to solemn music, with "arms reversed," to the beautiful little cadet cemetery just outside of the north gate overlooking the Hudson at the foot of the highest peak of the Highlands. Upon reaching the grave, line was formed facing it, and the coffin placed over it; arms were again presented and the band played another solemn air; the body was then lowered to its last resting place. We stood with bowed heads at rest on arms, while the Chaplain conducted the services at the grave. We then fired three rounds of blank cartridges and returned to barracks. After leaving the cemetery, we came to "right shoulder" arms, and marched to a quick step. During my day the corps of cadets attended a great many funerals, and among them were those of three of our professors, two or more cadets, and a number of old graduates of the Academy.

We fourth classmen now began to talk of June first, the day on which we would become yearlings and be admitted to the corps on equality with the other classmen; of the dropping of the Mr., of the shedding of our "plebe-skins" and how that great event should be celebrated; of how we would treat the next class, of which of us would be made corporals, of the hops, of the ladies who come up in June, and of other topics of vital interest to

fourth classmen. At a class meeting we selected six hop managers, six being our share for the summer hops, and we selected them by ballot. There were no nominations, it having been decided that the six receiving the greatest number of votes should be elected, and I was not one of the six. About the twenty-fifth of May D Company vacated its quarters and they were put in order for the candidates, who reported in my day between the first and tenth of June; now they do not report until later in June, after the cadets have gone into camp.

The academic year practically closed on the 31st of May, and on the next day the battalion was to again appear in its summer clothes; that is, in white pants and gray coats. White pants are the forerunners of the many changes to soon occur at the Point; a class to be graduated, another to go on furlough, and the other two, with a new class added to the corps, to go into camp; the members of the Board of Visitors and hundreds of other people to arrive, some to witness the graduating exercises, old graduates to attend their alumni meeting, others to see relatives in the corps, and still others to attend the summer hops. But with all these and other pleasures in store for the cadets about a dozen of the plebes were not satisfied. They knew that on the morrow candidates would begin to report, and that then they themselves would shed their plebe-skins, drop the Mr. and be full-fledged "yearlings." In order to mark this

great event in the life of a cadet at West Point we had months before decided upon doing something that no other yearlings had done. Away back in April, while at light battery drill, we "hived" some powder, by taking a little from a dozen or more cartridges, and we also "hived" some friction-primers. The night of May 31st was cloudy and hazy, which just suited us, and the tactical officers favored us by inspecting every room before midnight. At about half-past eleven we tied the handle of the angle door to an upright of the porch and fastened a rope to the posts at the head of the angle porch stairs, and then went one at a time out to the "reveille gun" that stood near execution hollow away out on the plain. We loaded that gun and then put in it all of our old socks and rammed the charge well. Some of our trusty party got cannon balls at Trophy Point and joined the others at the gun. We then wheeled the gun near the gravel walk in front of the barracks, and one of our party went on the grass to the right and another to the left. These two then made noises that attracted the attention of the two engineer sentinels posted at night on the gravel walk, and signaled that our coast was clear. We then rushed across the walk through the Sally Fort and fired that gun in the area. At the same time the cannon balls were rolled along the porches in rear of barracks, then we hastened to our rooms, undressed and went to bed to await developments.

Oh, what a dandy report that gun made; it shook the barracks and other buildings, too, and shattered windows all around. The cannon balls were also a great success, for they made a horrible rumbling sound. We awoke everybody. Lieutenant M——l was "officer in charge," and we soon heard him tugging away at the angle door and then stumble against the clothesline that we had so thoughtfully put up for his special benefit. He called the "drummer orderly," who slept in the guard-house and had long roll sounded. He questioned the cadet officers, but, of course, they knew nothing; then, as he himself had been a cadet, he made the new-born yearlings fall in and told them that the outrage had been committed by some of them, and that the guilty ones should be punished. He then said that all who had not taken part in the disgraceful affair could fall out and go to their quarters; the guilty ones trembled in their shoes, but soon recovered, for not a man fell out. The night was raw and chilly, but there the Lieutenant made us stand, first at attention, then at parade rest and then at attention again. The innocent were once more told to fall out, but not a man moved. We were then put into the guard-house and several of us obtained permission to go to our rooms for overcoats. Line was re-formed and B——ly directed to call the roll. I was in my own room at this time and could see and hear what was going on in the area. I knew that B——ly had not called the class roll for months,

so I staid in my room and listened to the roll-call, and when I discovered that I was not reported absent I went to bed. Lieutenant M——l then marched the yearlings out on the cavalry plain and drilled them at double time for several hours. He stood still some times and marched the class around him, and as he was not always near enough to distinguish one yearling from another in the dark there were many blunders purposely made in ranks, and this made him furious. After awhile Colonel B——k, the Commandant, put in his appearance, and then the class behaved all right, but it was kept at drill till near breakfast time. Before being dismissed Colonel B——k told the innocent ones to fall out, but not a man left the ranks. The class was then dismissed, and in a few minutes the battalion was formed for breakfast, and, of course, I fell in then. Before marching to the Mess Hall an order was published confining all members of the fourth class, except one who was in the hospital, to the area of the barracks until further orders. Some of the class had relatives and friends at the Point, and the confinement was hard on them, because cadets in confinement cannot see their friends for longer than half an hour, and then only in the visitors' room in the guard-house.

A salute of seventeen guns was fired by a detail of cadets in honor of the arrival of the Board of Visitors. There was much of interest now at the Point for the Board and others to see. Beginning





SEDGWICK MONUMENT.

PROFESSORS' ROW.

CADET MONUMENT.



with guard-mount (now at 8 o'clock), then oral examinations from 9 to 4 followed infantry, artillery or cavalry drill, and the day closing with dress parade at sunset. The rear view of the cadets marching at double time, to or from dress parade, out on the grassy plain is a beautiful sight, especially when white pants are worn, for then the wavy motion of the handsome uniforms with the black shoes alternating against the white pants and the green grass once seen is a sight never forgotten. In the evening the cadets, except those in confinement, and their friends could be together for an hour or two at the hotel or at some of the officers' quarters, provided, of course, that the cadets had "permits." Not to speak of a handsome display of fireworks on one evening and the graduating hop on another. During all these festivities, which lasted about three weeks, the cadets and candidates were undergoing rigid examinations, and at which many failed. Lists of the successful ones were announced, the graduates and furloughmen left and the others went into camp. Some of the "found" were turned back to join the next class, while the others were discharged.

On the morning after we had fired the gun in the area Colonel B——k sent for me, showed me one of my own slippers and told me that it had been picked up that morning on the walk in front of the barracks, and as it had my name in it he wanted me to explain how the slipper got out of my room. I told him that I didn't know, as the

last time I had worn or seen it was on the previous evening before taps. He did not ask me if I had taken part in the "disgraceful" affair. All of his questioning could get nothing more out of me, because I told the truth. I afterwards learned how the slipper did get out on the walk. When D Company vacated its quarters for the new class C—y came over to room with L—t and me, and unbeknown to me he had worn my slippers, and as he was one of the two cadets chased by the engineer sentinels he lost it, and then for fear that he and I might both be caught he did not mention the fact to me until after my return from the Commandant's office.

Three of my class were turned out over new cadets, and others of the class detailed to help drill them, and when the new list of corporals was published I had the pleasure of writing home that I was one of the few yearlings to wear chevrons.

After the publication of the new lists of class standing I called upon one of the unfortunates to express regret that he had not passed. He seemed to be very indifferent about having been found, and said that, after a long search on his "family tree," he had on that day made the fortunate discovery that he was the nineteenth cousin of Queen Victoria!

While in confinement C—y wrote a song commemorating the firing of the gun in the area, and the song was very popular in my day. The following is my version of it:

## WHO FIRED THAT GUN IN THE AREA?

In eighteen hundred and — — —  
Some plebes went out on the plain so free,  
Played the mischief generally,  
And fired the gun in the area.

They locked them up in the old guard-house,  
And bade them be as still as a mouse;  
They whooped and yelled and kicked about,  
And fired the gun in the area.

They made them at the attention stand,  
With rifles held all tight in the hand,  
But no one "peached" on any man  
Who fired the gun in the area.

Then Gussie M. said: "Oh, don't you see  
There's no use of your fooling with me?  
I'll make you stand till 'Reveille'  
For firing gun in the area.

"And if you rascals don't all be still,  
Of punishment you shall have your fill—  
I'll take you on the plain to drill  
For firing gun in the area."

He marched them round at the double time—  
Egad! that drill it was very fine;  
From everything they took the shine,  
And fired the gun in the area.

This man he got into such a state  
That ev'ry plebe he wanted to ate,  
And said they were insubord'nate,  
And fired the gun in the area.

Then Harry B. just raves and hollers,  
"Leave them alone, the bad young bothers;  
Confine them till further orders,  
For firing gun in the area."

Yearlings the plebes all became that day,  
And paid the price for being so gay  
After midnight the last of May,  
For firing gun in the area.





CAMP GEO. H. THOMAS.



The Pleasure

of your company is requested at the hops to be given by the Corps of Cadets every Monday Wednesday and Friday evening during the encampment.

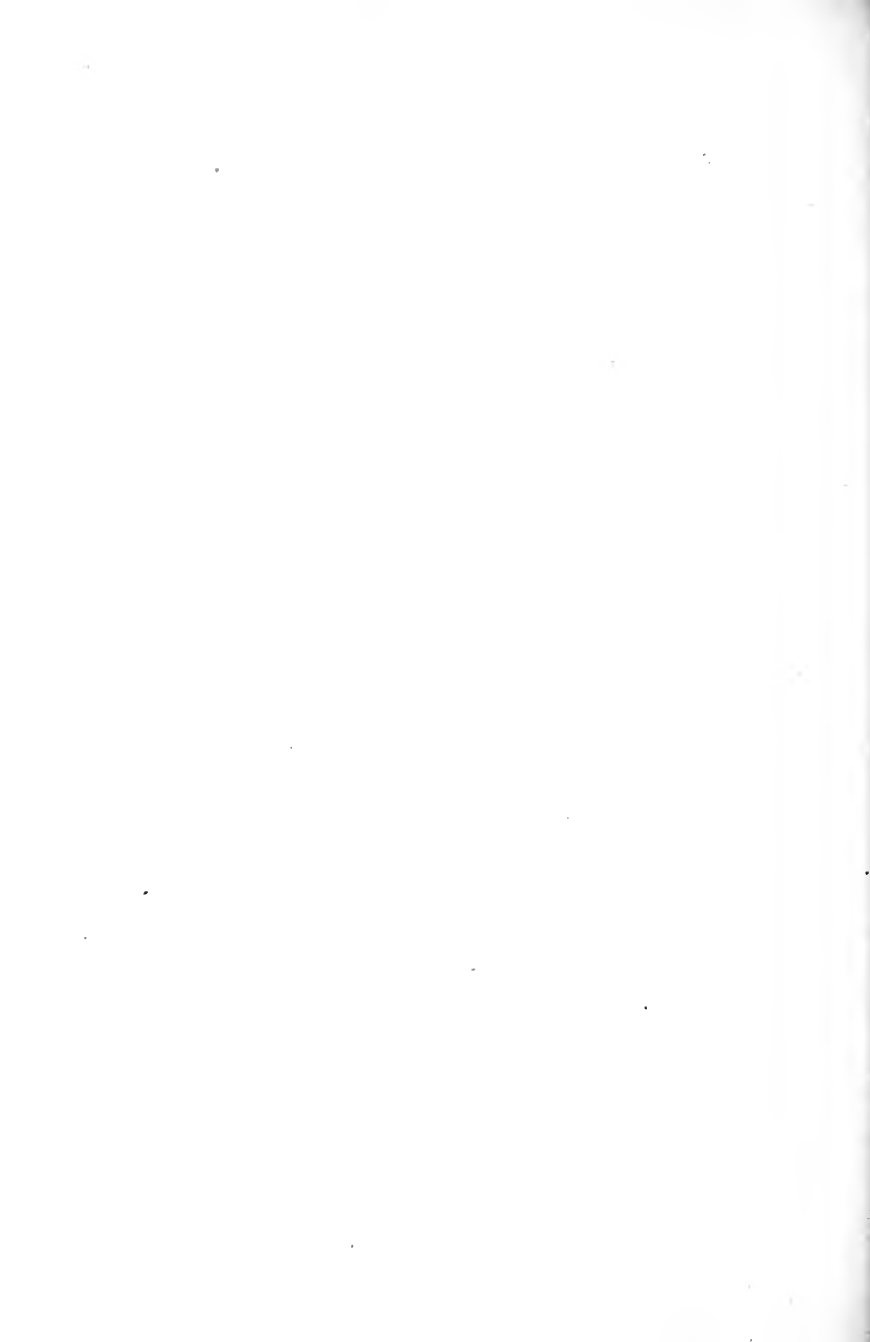
*MANAGERS.*

FRED. D. GRANT.	JAMES R. WASSON	J. BURKE HICKEY
ANDREW H. RUSSELL	THOS S. MUMFORD	T. M. WOODRUFF
WALTER S. WYATT.	REID T. STEWART	CORBIN DAVENPORT
EDWARD W. CASEY	QUINCY O. GILLMORE	LOUIS A. CRAIG
HENRY C. LA POINT	WILLIAM T. ROSSELL	WILLIAM H. COFFIN.

West Point N.Y.

22<sup>nd</sup> June. 18—







## CHAPTER VII.

## THE YEARLING.

WHEN we marched into camp again at the old site, which was this year named "Camp Geo. H. Thomas," the yearlings<sup>o</sup> were perfectly happy. We enjoyed the society of the plebes for awhile, but soon tired of that. We had been under such a strain during the previous year that we needed a rest, and we had it, too, as there was not much required of us for the first month. We seemed to need sleep, and we slept in the morning, again in the afternoon and all night, too. After we were rested we loitered under the trees near the guard tents during guard-mounts and band practice and mingled among the numerous summer visitors at the Point; to get acquainted was not difficult, as some of the visitors had relatives or friends in the corps, and, moreover, people get acquainted easier at a resort or a dance than almost anywhere else. Some of the yearlings never missed a hop, and there were three of them a week, from 8 to 11 p. m. Others of us who were not proficient in the art took dancing lessons occasionally, but generally found our pleasure in boating and in being with the

ladies, or with one another, listening to the music; in promenading on "Flirtation Walk," or calling at the hotel. We idled away the whole summer, and it did us good, for, when we returned to barracks, we were ready for study again. I don't want to be understood that we had nothing to do during camp, because many hours were spent at drill, at inspections and on guard, just enough to keep us active and healthy.

On pleasant days when not on duty we often strolled on "Flirtation Walk," that beautiful path winding through the trees and rocks between the camp site and the river to watch passing steamers or to see the objects of interest along this walk. There are some links of a huge chain on "Trophy Point" between Professor's Row and the hotel that was floated on logs across the Hudson during the Revolutionary War from Gee's Point at the big bend of the river to Constitution Island near the village of Cold Springs on the east side of the Hudson. We used to examine the place near the lighthouse on Gee's Point, where one end of this chain was fastened and wonder what effect such an obstruction would be to the gunboats of to-day. At other times we would linger about Kosciuszko's Monument, a little south of Gee's Point, and quench our thirst at the same spring that this noble Pole drank from more than a century ago when he built Fort Clinton—that is, nearby on the plain—while at the same time General Putnam constructed the numerous other fortifications on

the neighboring hills. Then we would visit Battery Knox, near Kosciuszco's garden, to see the beautiful view down the Hudson that this work commands, or go to see still another handsome view up the Hudson from Trophy Point or Siege Battery at the north, or rather the west end of Flirtation Walk. Battery Knox, and Seacoast, Siege and Mortar batteries are of comparative recent origin and were built by the cadets. There are many monuments, aside from those in the little cemetery, that have been erected at salient points about the grounds to heroes who freely sacrificed their lives in the cause of freedom. Some of those brave men shed their blood to give birth to our republic, others to wrest territory from the Indians or from Mexico, and still others that our Union might live. Then there are cannon and other relics of war on Trophy Point and in the "museum" that are silent teachers for all who see them. The very air about this historic spot teaches love of country, and the cadets absorb much valuable information that is not taught in the section room.

Cadets who were popular with the ladies often used to pin the "spooney buttons" on their coats, and when a cadet gave his spooney button to a young lady this act was equivalent to saying that she was the favored one.

"The ladies—may Heaven bless their faces!

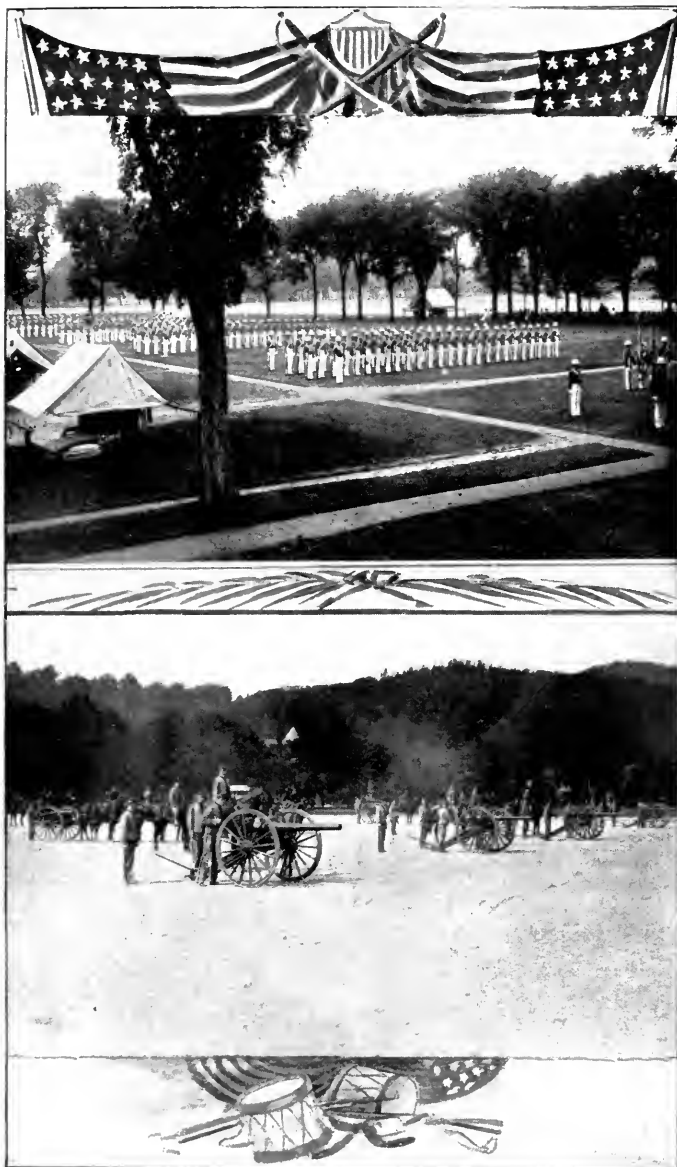
They come here in summer sweet,

Each being loaded with graces,

And all have cadets at their feet."

Lieutenant K——g was a popular tactical officer and quite a ladies' man. He liked music, and at band practice he often requested the leader to play "Shoo Fly," and so often that the cadets noticed it, and called him "Shoo Fly," not to his face, of course, but among ourselves. Clara G——e, a little six-year-old girl, was a frequent visitor at camp, and she was a great admirer of Cadet W——e. One day he was officer of the guard and I was corporal of the guard. During dress parade my post was near the first guard tent facing the battalion, and it was my duty to see that visitors kept back of a certain line. Little Clara was out to see the dress parade, and, as Cadet W——e was at the guard tents, she was near him. W——e called me, and then told little Clara just when and where to go and what to say. There were many visitors present that evening. I took my post, and in a few minutes Lieutenant K——g stepped a dozen or so yards in front of me and of the line of visitors preparatory to taking post as officer in charge of the parade. Just then little Clara ran out in front of the visitors' line, and in a loud voice called: "Lieutenant K——g! Oh, Lieutenant K——g!" which, of course, attracted everybody's attention, and then she said, "What do they all call you 'Shoo Fly' for?"

One day four young ladies came to camp, and four of us yearlings met them under the trees at the guard tents. The ladies wanted us to take them out boating, and as they knew cadets had no



INSPECTION IN CAMP.

LIGHT ARTILLERY DRILL.



way of providing refreshments, they themselves had brought baskets of cake and fruit. Knowing that our quartette could be absent from camp for several hours we picked up the baskets and started. Attached to our boathouse there was an inclined and also a floating dock, all fastened together, so that the two docks would rise and fall with the water in the river. The floating dock had been covered with water so often that it was quite slippery, and we cautioned the young ladies about it. While we were carrying our boat from its place in the boathouse one of the young ladies ran down the inclined dock, and the moment she stepped upon the floating dock she slipped and sat down in a half inch of water. Her sister (for there were two sisters in the party) ran to her rescue, and she, too, sat down in the water. We knew nothing of the mishaps until the sisters were just getting upon their feet; then we suggested another day for the trip, but they said no, as everything was ready now we must go. All got in the boat and off we went. We rowed across the river under the bridge and landed (off limits) in the woods on the east side of the Hudson. The ladies said that they would prepare lunch, so the yearlings left them to themselves for a while. Upon our return a dainty lunch was spread upon the grass, and we all fell to with a relish, and then started upon our return to the camp. We observed that the ladies insisted upon carrying the baskets and to hold on to them while in the boat; this, of

course, excited our suspicions, and we found out that the baskets contained the sisters' laundry.

It was the rule for a corporal to march the sick of his company to the hospital at sick-call at 6:30 a. m., and as there were not many sick the custom sprang up in the corps for one corporal to take the sick-report books of all four companies to the hospital when there were no sick. So one morning near the close of Yearling Camp, when there were no sick in my company to go to the hospital, a corporal of another company took my sick-report book, and as luck would have it I was reported for "Neglect of duty, not taking sick-report book to the hospital," and for this I was reduced to ranks, but soon afterwards I was appointed a "marker" for battalion drill, a very pleasant duty. The summer soon passed, the furlough class returned, we struck tents and our yearling camp was over.

Back to barracks we went, donned our gray pants, drew text books,\* posted our hours of recitation and began the school work for another year.

Cavalry drill is a part of the course in each of the last three years, and the yearlings always hailed the day when they could begin cavalry drill, and at last the time came for us. The class was divided into two platoons, and a platoon at a time sent to the Riding Hall. When my platoon marched into the hall we were all disappointed, for, instead of finding our horses ready saddled,

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\*See appendix.



they were not saddled at all. We were marched in front of the line of horses, which were being held by cavalry soldiers, the yearling on the right of the line was instructed to take the first horse, the next yearling to take the next horse, and so on to the left. The horses were bridled and had blankets on them, held in place by surcingles. Captain B——s explained to us how to mount, and then ordered us to mount. Some of us had no trouble in mounting, but it was very amusing to see others who had never been on a horse; it took them a long time to get on, notwithstanding the drill we had had in the gymnasium. It was found that a real horse was different from a wooden horse. After all were mounted the position of the soldier, mounted, was explained to us, and our faults corrected. We were then dismounted, then mounted again. So much time was taken up in explaining details and in mounting and dismounting and correcting errors that the whole hour passed in that way. The next day we did get to ride, but for only a few minutes, and at a walk then. As the days came we rode longer each time, but always at a walk for weeks. Then came the slow trot, and it was fun to see some of the yearlings fall off, but as we had been so well drilled in mounting they were soon on again. That first day at the slow trot we all got very sore. Many of the horses were hard trotters, and many a yearling had chafed legs. I remember seeing several of my class who suffered a great deal, so

much that for a time the blood ran down on their shoes. We were taught to saddle and unsaddle, to fold the saddle blanket, to bridle and unbridle, to ride with saddles, first at a walk, then a trot and then at a gallop. We were then taught to ride with a sabre and then given sabre exercises, and then the use of the pistol, then without saddles to mount and dismount, first at a walk, then at a trot, then at a gallop and then at the full speed of the horse; then to jump hurdles, then to jump a hurdle, dismount, mount and jump another hurdle, the horse going at full speed; then to use the sabre, cutting at leather balls, called heads, one on a post, one on the ground and another on a post; then to jump a hurdle and with the sabre to catch a ring at the same time from a string suspended near the hurdle, then to cut a head on the ground, then one on a post and then to jump another hurdle, catch another ring and take another head. We were also taught the various platoon movements, and occasionally on pleasant days we were taken out for long rides into the country.

Visitors at the Point often wanted to see how the cadets lived, and when they went about it right, i. e., made the acquaintance of certain tactical officers, their requests were sometimes granted. Lieutenant K——g came to my room one morning after he had made his regular inspection and said that he had wanted to bring some visiting ladies and gentlemen over to see my room, but from the looks of things he thought it inadvisable. I re-

plied that all would be in order in a few minutes, and when ready I'd go to the hall door, where he could see me. To this he assented. My room at that particular time was in bad order. O'C——r and I had our guns apart and cleaning materials and rags scattered about the floor, and worse, two of our classmates who lived across the hall from us brought their chairs to our room, and we four were playing whist, but Lieutenant K——g was good enough not to notice our visitors or cards, and he did not report us. In a few minutes all was in order, and I went to the hall door as a signal. In a few minutes more Lieutenant K——g arrived with the visitors; they wanted to see our guns, but fearing criticism he made an excuse that they were all alike. O'C——r and I at once got our rifles and the Lieutenant was amazed to see them in fine condition. Afterwards he told us that he did not know how we put things in shape on such a short time.

One pleasant Saturday afternoon a party of young ladies arrived with baskets of refreshments to meet a party of yearlings for a trip to "Cro' Nest." As I was the only one of the yearlings not "on punishment" or "in confinement" I met the young ladies, explained the situation and said that the trip would have to be postponed. They replied that as two of the young ladies were to leave for New York on Monday next they were determined to go to Cro' Nest at once, and that if I would not go that the ladies would go alone. Seeing that

they were determined to go I went with them. We climbed to the top of the mountain and had a good view, as Cro' Nest is near the top of the highest peak around. The mountain is covered with timber, and after leaving the top it was hard to tell just where we would find our way down. Unfortunately, we reached the foot of the mountain at a point on the Hudson where the bank was about vertical, and so high that we had to climb more than half way up again to get down on the other side of that ridge. This consumed so much time that when we reached the Dutchwoman's it was after 10 o'clock at night. Alfred, the Dutchwoman's son, was there, and we sent him for Lieutenant K——g to take the young ladies to Cold Springs, where some of them lived and the others were visiting. Cold Springs was off cadet limits, hence I could not risk going there, when I knew I had been reported absent from dress parade and from quarters, so I bade the young ladies adieu and reported with as little delay as possible to the cadet officer of the day, who had made search for me and was about to send a detail to hunt for me. Immediately after breakfast the next morning I went to the Dutchwoman's, saw Alfred and learned that he had found Lieutenant K——g in ample time to catch the last ferryboat at 11 p. m., but that the Lieutenant waited to finish a game of billiards he was playing at the officers' mess, and he arrived with the ladies at the North Landing just in time to see the last ferry-



GYMNASIUM.

LIBRARY.



# PROGRAMME

OF THE

**Entertainment Given by the  
U. S. Corps of Cadets,**

**NEW YEAR'S EVE., 18....  
WEST POINT.**

Overture .....Orchestra

## PART I.

### **Handy Andy.**

(Ye Gladsome Farce.)

Handy Andy.....Cadet Shortelle  
 Squire Egan.....Cadet A. E. Wood  
 Dick Dawson.....Cadet Rogers  
 Mr. Murphy.....Cadet Casey  
 Squire O'Grady.....Cadet Goddard  
 Mr. Furlong.....Cadet Mumford  
 Edward O'Conner.....Cadet Hickey  
 Simon .....Cadet Guard  
 First Ruffian .....Cadet "Doyle"  
 Second Ruffian .....Cadet "McGinnis"  
 Oonah Rooney .....Cadet Birney  
 Mad Nance.....Cadet Townsend  
 Fanny Dawson .....Cadet Rowell  
 Peasants, Strangers, Citizens, Etc., by the Company.  
 Music .....Orchestra



## PART II.

**Ye Soul-Stirring Tragedy of Macbeth.**

Macbeth—Ye vengeful slayer of his King; who is knawed by  
grim remorse.

Macduff—Ye valiant general; ye loyal nobleman.

Duncan—King of Sctland.

Lady Macbeth—Who nightly walketh in her sleep.

Seyton—Ye officer of Horse Marines, attendant upon Macbeth.

Guitar Duet.....Cadets Evans and Harrington

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**“Camille.”**

A Tragedy.

Camille .....Cadet Casey  
(Tries to wheeden it.)

Armand Duvall.....Cadet Goddard  
(The histrionic vender of peanuts.)

Music .....Orchestra

## PART III.

Dion Bourcicault's "Speelshakes" Unparalleled Combination  
Overstrung Electro-Plated Tragedy of

**Les Immortelles de la Classe Von-Bonaute.**

As exhibited on the European plan by the world-renowned Pere Hyacinthe Troupe at Covent Garden, New Jersey, for over one consecutive night, during the rainy season, to an overflowing house, and afterwards successfully brought out by the Sheriff and Posse Troupe at the Tombs, New York, to a well-secured audience.

CHARACTERS.

(Don't cut this part off.)

Cadet Shrimp, Plan and Section Marcher.

Cadet McDoyle ..... Vesskoldt

Cadet Guinness ..... Narywacks U C

Cadet Bewkellit ..... Wheet, N. R.

Cadet Cutit ..... Tanbark

Cadet Merritt, D.

Recites at No. 1.5 Cockloft, Cavalry Stables, or in the area of Barracks on Saturday, alternating daily as the Professor may feel like it, with Courts-Martial from 2 P. M. until Police Inspection.

Music ..... Orchestra

## PART IV.

**Minstrels, by the Cadet Band.**

## 1.

Overture (Ernani).....	Cadet Band
Beautiful Bells.....	Solo and Chorus
Polka (La tarde del Sabado).....	Cadet Band
Kaiser, Don't You Want to Buy a Dog?.....	Company
Riding Hall Galop.....	Cadet Band
Mary Aileen.....	Solo and Chorus
Music .....	Orchestra

## 2.

Maltese Boat Song .....	Quartette
Galop (Dgagdfnp) .....	Cadet Band
Now I Lay Me Down to Sleep.....	Solo and Chorus
Flirtation Waltz .....	Cadet Band
Die Wacht am Rhein .....	Company
Jim Jam Chorus .....	Company

## ARTICLES OF WAR.

ARTICLE I.—The managers wish it to be distinctly understood that they have original jurisdiction over all cases of loud and unseemly noise, shouting and crying out “Supe,” “Boots,” “Carry him out” and the like; and appellate jurisdiction over all violations of these Articles of Confederation, including the use of peanuts, taffy, pop-corn or other raging strong drink.

ART. II.—In case of fire, to prevent unnecessary disturbance, the audience will be formed in two ranks endwise, the right wing resting on the Chapel steps, the left on the Declaration of Independence, bayonets fixed and trimmings to be worn on the outside of the mess hall. Should the danger be imminent a small detail, made by the Superintendent on recommendation of the academic board, will be allowed to visit the trunk rooms for the purpose of obtaining their white pants.

AMENDMENT XIV.—Should any one of the audience feel hungry during the performance he will make out a statement of the fact, showing the color of his eyes and hair, when and where he was born, when and where enlisted, how long since he ate anything, and why he did not then eat enough to last. He will submit it to the Commandant of Cadets, who will, if convenient, forward it to the Superintendent. He will forward it to the Secretary of War, who will refer it to the Third Auditor of the Treasury to ascertain how much of the necessary appropriation remains unexpended. It will then be exposed to Brand’s sulphate of soda test to ascertain the effect of frost, after which it will be covered with several layers of beton, well rammed. At the end of ten hundred years, if it still yields to the pressure of the finger and remains soluble in hot rum toddy, the application will be disapproved. The applicant will meanwhile receive napkins, cane-bottomed chairs and plated castors to whet his appetite.

PREAMBLE.—Should any member of the academic staff be so overcome by the refining nature of the performance as to feel a desire to sign the temperance pledge, he will find one in the cupboard of a little room in rear of the dining room of the officers’ mess,

boat beyond call. The party then went to the Engineer Barracks, a half mile or more distant, got a large engineer boat, and Lieutenant K——g himself rowed the young ladies across the Hudson to Cold Springs, and did not return until after reveille the following Sunday morning. I hastened back to my quarters and worked hard on my gun in preparing my room for inspection (for I was room orderly that week), for I felt that the Lieutenant would be especially careful with me at inspection, and so he was, but he could find nothing to report me for. After inspecting my room he said, "Mr. R——d, you had quite an adventure yesterday?" I replied, "Yes, sir." He then asked: "Did the young ladies get home safely?" and I answered, "You ought to know more about that than I do, sir." He left the room, banged the door and accepted my explanation for my absence the day before.

Before we could realize it Thanksgiving came and went, Christmas and the boxes of sweetmeats arrived, and as no Christmas leaves were granted this year we took a greater interest than usual in an entertainment that came off in the Mess Hall on New Year's Eve.

The January examinations came again, and as is always the case there were many failures, among them being my tall young friend from Tennessee. After changing our hours of recitation the steady grind went on as usual.

About 1 o'clock in the morning of the 5th of

February "long roll" sounded, and, of course, this meant for everybody to turn out promptly. In a few minutes after the call sounded the cadet companies formed in the area, and in a few minutes more those in the fire department had our little hand engine out and at work, for the cadet barracks were on fire. Tony R——r held the nozzle and directed the stream on the roof of the "Fourth Division," where the flames were the thickest. The bucket brigade was also soon at work. Some of the plebes in the cock-loft of the Fourth Division did not awake until after their rooms were filled with smoke, and when roll was called they were discovered absent, and we formed lines taking hold of hands and went into their rooms that were filled with smoke and brought them out. We worked until after daylight the next morning. Engineer and cavalry soldiers soon arrived to help us, but much damage was done before the fire was put out. Most of the roof was destroyed and great damage done to the "Dialectic Society Room" over the Sally Port and to the cock-loft rooms of the Fourth Division. No one was injured, but some of the cadets lost everything except their nightclothes, which they had escaped in. The unfortunate ones found accommodations by doubling up with their classmates. Recitations begun at 8 a. m. that day as though nothing had happened, and in a few weeks the damage to the building was repaired, and a little later Congress, which was then in session, made good all losses.

When a cadet expected to "cut a meal," that is, not go to the Mess Hall for it, or when he wanted a lunch between meals, he would butter a breakfast roll or two pieces of bread, fold the lunch in his handkerchief and put it in the breast of his coat, and then throw his shoulders forward to hide it, so as not to be reported for carrying food from the Mess Hall. In winter I often carried a roll to my room and put it on the steam coil under the marble slab. The heat melted the butter and made a luscious evening lunch. Whenever a cadet had not provided a lunch for himself and he wished to attend a "fight" at Fort Clinton a classmate would bring him something from the Mess Hall.

Once in a while some of the cadets would try their hands at cooking; they would get such articles of food from the Mess Hall as they could conceal about their clothes and other articles from the Dutch Woman's, and after taps put a blanket up to cover the window, attach one end of a rubber tube to the gas jet and the other to a burner under a pot or pan, using candles for light. About the time the dainty dish, called "hash," was ready the invited guests would arrive, and then such a feast. Once in a while an unexpected visitor in the form of a tactical officer would happen around, and then such scampering; the unlucky ones always paying dearly for the fun by walking "extras" on Saturday afternoons. There were two of my classmates who lived together, and one of

them was a famous cook, but they were both "found" in January, and the one who was not the cook told me that he himself would not have been found had he not had a cook for a roommate.

The paraphrase, by T——n of the class of 18—, gives a good account of "a cadet hash" and the results following it:

A CADET HASH—(With Apologies to "The Raven.")

Once upon a morning dreary,  
 Whilst I pondered sad and weary,  
 Over the remains of cooking  
 And the grease upon the floor,  
 Suddenly there came a tapping,  
 As of Kent or Piper rapping,  
 Rapping at my chamber door;  
 Only this and nothing more.

What I said I will not mention  
 When I heard the "stand attention"  
 Coming from my chamber door.  
 Up I jumped nor word did utter,  
 As with many a snuff and splutter,  
 Came the giant form of Henry  
 Gazing at my greasy floor;  
 Only this and nothing more.

And behind him came a creature,  
 Human as to form and feature,  
 Whom I recognized as Jakey,  
 Gazing, too, upon my floor.  
 When I heard this creature vicious  
 Putting on a smile malicious,  
 Mutter, "You've been having cooking,  
 That is what has greased your floor."  
 Only this and nothing more.



"Yes," said Henry, "I can smell it,  
 'Tis so plain that one can tell it,  
 Tell the odor of the cooking,  
 And the grease upon the floor."  
 Thus his spirit burned within him,  
 And he said to Jacob, "Skin him,  
 Skin him for the smell of cooking  
 And for grease upon the floor."  
 "Yes," said Jakey, and something more.

Then he said, with look aggressive,  
 And with twist of head expressive,  
 "Put him on as orderly.  
 Orderly for one week more!"  
 "Yes," said Jacob, "I will do it;  
 This young man shall surely rue it,  
 Rue the night that he had cooking,  
 Rue the time he greased his floor,  
 He shall serve for one week more."

Then they left me in my sadness,  
 Musing o'er the deed of madness,  
 Thinking of the smell of cooking  
 And of grease upon my floor.  
 All that night was turned to mourning,  
 Visions stern of "extras" dawning,  
 On my tearful, blinded vision,  
 Caused me pain evermore.  
 This is all—there's nothing more.

Among the plebes reporting last June there was a colored youth, and he was the first colored appointee. He passed the preliminary examinations and was duly admitted. Without any concert of action we each and every one let the colored plebe alone. We never spoke to him except officially. He had a tent or a room all by himself, and he never had cause to complain of being deviled.

However, one day he did complain, and said he had been tied and had had his ears cut; a great cry was raised against the hazing at West Point. The case was investigated, but he had no charges to make against any particular person, and as his injuries were of a certain kind the cadets were of the opinion that he had inflicted them upon himself. The army surgeons gave it as their opinion that any one could tie and injure himself as this colored youth had been tied and injured. This lad was neither black nor was he a mulatto; his face and hands were light, with dark spots on them, and these spots were darker on some occasions than others, which caused us to watch him closely. We discovered that just before a rain the spots in his cheeks were darker than at any other time, so we spoke of him as the "Walking Barometer." Like many a better man, he was found deficient in a year or two and discharged. Had he been a white man I do not believe that he would ever have been admitted to West Point, because, as cadets, we thought him very dull and stupid.

There were some young ladies living at Cold Springs, who often visited the Point, and they repeatedly invited certain of the cadets to call on them some evening after "Taps." Upon promise of a good supper and music some of us agreed to "run it" over there on the next Saturday night, provided, of course, that the tactical officers made their night inspections in time for us to catch the last ferryboat at 11 p. m. It so happened that the

tactical officers all made early inspections on a particular Saturday night, and soon after they had gone we went to the rooms of certain candidates, who had not gotten their uniforms and whose suits of civilian clothes we decided to wear, unbeknown to them, of course. We found them asleep, took off our cadet gray and donned the candidates' citizen clothes. By "hustling" we were just in time for the ferry, but as we were going down hill past the Seacoast Battery we met Professor C——h and some other officers, who had just arrived on the ferry, and as luck went L——n, from force of habit, saluted the officers. Our courage almost failed us then, but on we went. After reaching the boat landing we hesitated about crossing the Hudson for fear that, after having been seen, another inspection of quarters would be made that night, and if it were made we were sure of being reported absent, and this meant, as we could not make explanation that we were on cadet limits at the time, that we would have to stand "trial by court-martial," and if any witnesses were found to prove us off limits we were certain to be dismissed. Notwithstanding all this, we went, and reached the house where all the young ladies had agreed to be at about midnight. We were not expected, but the young ladies were up and said that they did not dream of our taking the chances we did of being dismissed. As we were not expected, there was no supper for us. One of the ladies played the piano for a little while, and then quit

because it was Sunday morning. Seeing that our trip was a disappointment we left the house and started on our return to barracks. The boatman was not where he told us to call for him, and we did not find him till about 4 a. m. In the meantime we became thoroughly chilled, and we ran across several men who might become witnesses, thus increasing our chances of being caught. Again it was fast approaching reveille, we would be absent from roll call, and what would the candidates whose clothes we had on do? Then there were our clothes with our names in them in the candidates' rooms to be used as evidence against us. Oh, what a pleasant time we had that night! At last we landed at the same dock that I had first landed at, but I was not then in a humor to appreciate the scenery. We agreed after we changed clothes again with the candidates and had gone to our own rooms to see whether or not we had been "hived absent" to meet at the sink. It was not long till we met there and found that we had not been caught absent, and that the candidates never knew we wore their clothes.

We now began to talk of furlough, and as the time drew near we became the more anxious to see home folks again. Tailors visited the Point with samples of summer suitings, and the Commissary tailor also had samples to show. At last each yearling ordered the clothes he wanted to wear when he went on furlough as a swell second classman, and when the citizen suits were ready

those who ordered at the Commissary could try them on, while the others had to wait for theirs until after the 1st of June. During the spring months we held several class meetings to decide upon a furlough cane, and at last we agreed upon one. It was a small malaca stick with an L-shaped ivory head, having the last two figures of the year we expected to graduate in cut into the free end of the L. Our folks when they saw us with the little canes called us dudes, and they were about right, too, but that was many years ago, when we were young and charming.

#### A FURLOUGH DREAM.\*

Air:—Benny Havens, Oh!

A few more days and June will come,  
 And with her rosy hand  
 Will open wide the gate that leads  
 Unto the promised land,  
 Where dwells the "Cit" in happy ease,  
 Without the least regard,  
 While he doth have the entire earth  
 Enclosed in his front yard.

He has no fear of any "Tac" .  
 When he off limits strays,  
 No reveille disturbs his ear.  
 Oh, joyful are his days;  
 He has no fear of Mathy probs,  
 Or French to masticate;  
 No Spanish grip with outstretched arms  
 Awaits to seal his fate.

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\*From songs by the Class of 1897,

He has no bony nag to ride  
In Grant's or Custer's style,  
No other animals to fight  
That wear a goaty smile;  
And as the summer days roll by  
The wily hammock holds  
This happy, lazy, lounging "Cit"  
Within its sleepy folds.

Oh, haste the day when we shall share  
In life's sweet joys again;  
No hearts on earth will lighter beat  
Than those of furloughmen.  
'Twill all seem like a happy dream,  
But, oh! how short and sweet,  
This oasis in our four years,  
When friends long parted meet.

And then once more we will return  
To West Point battle ground,  
To fight again for two years more,  
That is, if we're not "found;"  
So furloughmen just brace yourselves,  
And keep hopes' fire ablaze,  
For we, too, shall be jolly "Cits"  
In just a few more days..



## CHAPTER VIII.

## THE FURLOUGHMAN.

ANOTHER June rolled around, the Board of Visitors arrived, the customary salute was fired and the alumni meeting held. The examinations were completed, another class was graduated and a new one admitted to the corps. As usual, at the annual examinations some of the "found" were turned back to join the next class, while the other unfortunates left the Point to return no more as cadets. The fortunate graduates and the happy furloughmen, after drawing the "balances due" from the Treasurer of the Academy, donned their "cit" clothes and went on furlough; the graduates to assume the duties of Second Lieutenants in the army at the expiration of their "graduating leave" on the 30th of the following September, and the second classmen to return to the Point at the expiration of their "furlough" on the 28th of August. The amounts due varied according to the economy practiced by the cadets. Some had nothing due, while others received as much as two hundred dollars in addition to the "equipment fund." Four dollars per month is retained from the pay of each

cadet as his "equipment fund," and it is given to him when he graduates or leaves the Academy never to return as a cadet.

Mine was the furlough class this year, and when I reached home my mother made me open my trunk in the back yard, and she herself was present to see that I shook and aired everything I had, for the reason, she said, that, as there were no women to keep things clean about our barracks, she was sure that we had bedbugs there.

I had not been at home long when an old Quaker called on me and said: "H——, I have been waiting for thee to come home. During the war I noticed that soldiers always stepped off with the left foot first, and now that thee has been to the Government's Military School for two years, thee probably knows why." I had to confess my ignorance on the subject then, and I must confess it now.

One day I received an invitation to visit a battalion of State Militia in camp, and I was requested to take my uniform. I accepted the invitation, and wore it in camp. I was able to and did give instruction in many points of the tactics, which at that time were new to the militia, and at the same time I learned much at this camp that was new and useful to me. At the request of the commanding officer of the camp I acted as Adjutant at parades and guard-mounts. I got along all right after the first dress parade, where I took post on the wrong side of the commanding officer after having presented arms to him. However,





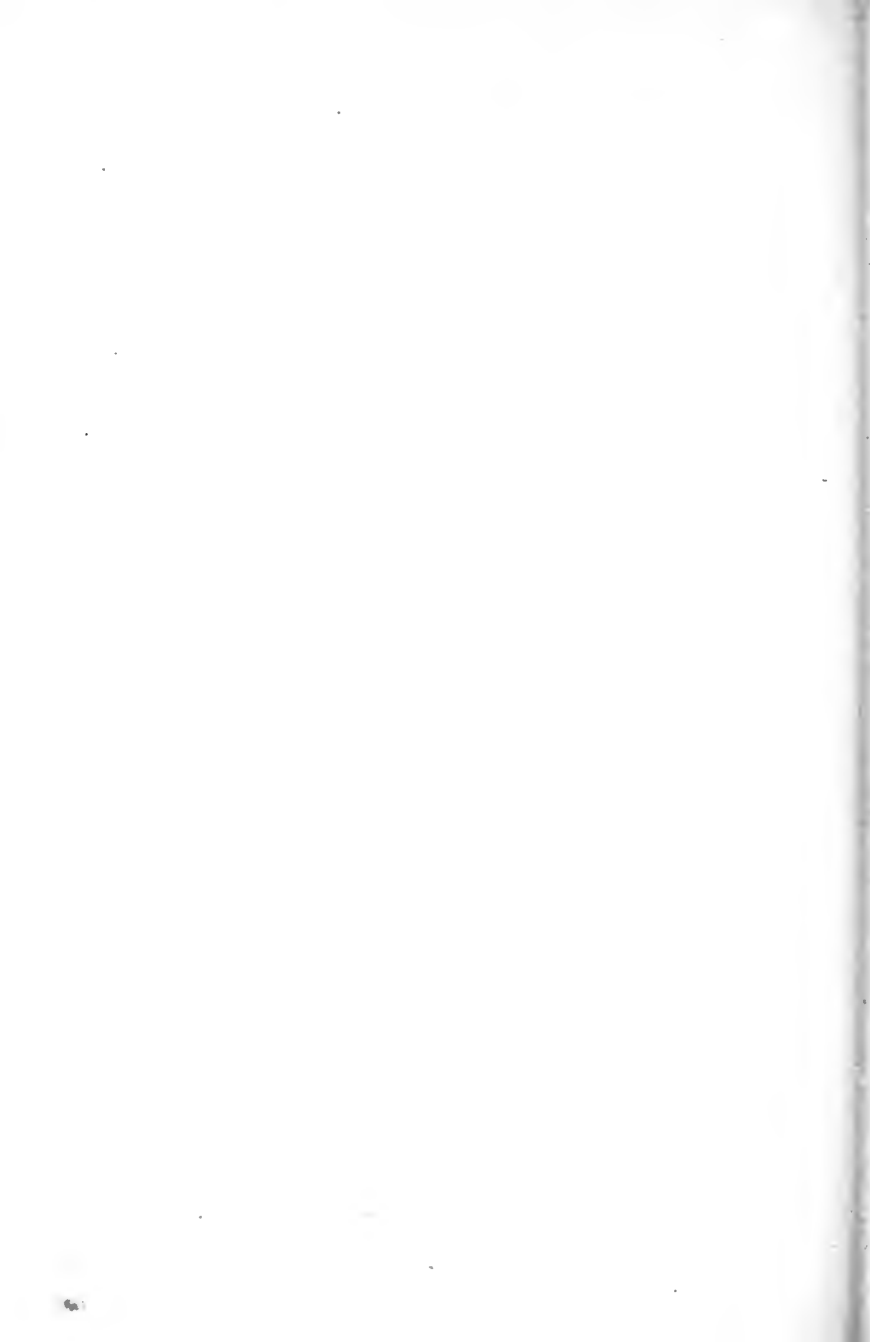
The Pleasure  
of your company  
is requested at the hops  
to be given by the  
Corps of Cadets every  
Monday Wednesday and  
Friday evening during  
the encampment

MANAGERS.

STANHOPE E BLUNT	GEO T T PATTERSON	HENRY R LEMLY
THOMAS C WOODBURY	ADOIS M HENRY	HARRY H LONDON
J W WILKINSON	HARRY C WYANT.	LEVEN C ALLEN.
J LEW WILSON	CHARLES W ROWELL	G E SCOTT WOOD
ALFRED REYNOLDS	EDMUND K WEBSTER	W M L GEARY

At the Hop

21<sup>st</sup> June 1872



the militia of my state was not then as well posted on tactics as it is to-day; my blunder was not discovered.

During furlough some of my classmates visited me, and I visited some of them, and we had a jolly good time of course, for all college men enjoy their vacations. While students of other colleges usually have several months' vacation every year, West Point cadets have but one vacation in their four years. With many pleasures and not a care the summer soon passed, and as usual most of the furloughmen met in New York to return together from there.

A warm welcome awaited us in "Camp Belknap," that being the name of the camp at the Point this year. Mustaches and side whiskers that we had grown during the summer all had to come off before we reported our return to the Adjutant. We soon shaved, visited the trunk rooms, donned our uniforms and reported for duty. After a gay time on the "color line" that evening we turned in with the first classmen, who had long been our friends, although they were once the yearlings who had deviled us in our plebe camp; so quickly is the deviling forgiven and yet never forgotten. The next day we "broke camp" and returned to barracks, this time to begin on the hardest studies\* of the four years. It did not take us long to get down to hard study and drill again.

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\*See Appendix.

and to become interested once more in the few things that afford pleasure to cadets during the Academic year.

After arriving at the Point and before reporting the return from furlough, it has long been a custom to have a class picture taken upon the chapel steps, and when sitting for this picture furloughmen generally look as "tough" as possible, as may be seen from the picture of the group of furloughmen.

When marching to and from meals, long before I myself became a second classman, I observed four members of the then second class who did not march with the battalion, but who strolled leisurely to and from the Mess Hall. My first thought was that they had been excused by the Post Surgeon from marching to and from meals, but upon inquiry I learned that these four were "Company Clerks," and that they were detailed on special duty upon the recommendations of the first sergeants. Hence I promptly secured the promise of D——t that if he obtained the first sergeancy of C Company I should be the company clerk. He was made the first sergeant and kept his promise to me, and for more than a year I made out the muster rolls and guard details of C Company. From that day I have not walked post as a sentinel; the first year because I was company clerk, and the next year because first classmen do not do guard duty after the plebes begin to go on guard. Neither did I march to and from meals

any more; the first year because I was company clerk and the next because I was one of twelve first classmen who, at that time, took their meals at a private house in Professor's Row.

Professor K——k was an old bachelor, but he kept open house on Saturday afternoons, and it was a great pleasure to him to welcome cadet callers. He always treated them to waffles and maple syrup or to something else equally as delicious and not found on the Mess Hall bill of fare.

In my day the gas tips in cadet rooms did not give a very good light, so some of the cadets bought better tips and when caught using them they were of course reported for tampering with public property. G——r, of my class, had an "Argand burner," and at first he was very careful to take it off for inspection of quarters, but one evening he was caught unawares and reported. For this serious offense he was confined to "light prison" for several months. Light prisons at that time were rooms in the angle of barracks, and they were off limits for cadets not there in confinement. The cadet officer of the day carried the prison keys, and at certain hours, such as for recitations and drills, he would let out the prisoners. G——r got so tired of being alone that he removed a panel of his prison door and then often went visiting after taps. But he got out through the panel once too often, for he was caught and then his prison door was barred and his stay in prison lengthened many weeks.

One day when Captain B——s had my cavalry platoon out for a long ride in the country, just before passing an orchard filled with luscious ripe apples, the Captain rode from the head to the rear of the column and said to the rear guide: "Mr. H——s, don't let anyone go into that orchard," and then returned to the head of the column. H——s saw to it that none of us "fell out" of ranks, but he himself treated to apples from that orchard.

Cadets are taught the use of the pencil, pen and brush, the latter in water colors only. In this work we painted from models of landscapes, figures, ships, etc., and, as may be expected, some cadets were more skillful than others. Those near the foot of the class in drawing had hard work to keep from being found deficient in it. To get better results in water color work the professor occasionally directed a cadet to wash out a part of his drawing and begin that part over again. In looking at Cadet G——e's work one day, Professor W——r directed him to wash out the "hull" of the ship he was at work on. After a while the professor returned and began to scold, when G——e "innocently" said: "Why, professor, you told me to wash out the 'whole' of it." The topographical sketch of the most interesting part of West Point given on another page is a reproduction of a specimen of cadet pen and ink work.

We were kept so busy during this year that the time passed rapidly, notwithstanding many privileges that we had enjoyed were taken away from

us. For instance, this year we were not allowed to go on Christmas leave, nor to receive Christmas boxes, nor to give an entertainment on New Year's Eve. The fact is a new superintendent had taken charge of affairs and it did not take us long to find it out. Still we soon became accustomed to the new order of things and all went well.

As I have said, cadets wore old shoes to reveille, and the accompanying verses express the kindly feelings they have for them:

#### MY OLD REVEILLES.

You may talk of your gaiters as much as you please,  
Their beauty, their elegance, comfort and ease;  
But of all the shoes that e'er shoemaker made,  
Not a word that is better of them can be said  
Than Cadets will say and they'll not say it to please,  
But for pure, honest love of their old Reveilles.

Long ages ago, they have seen their best day;  
Tho' rusty and holey, I'll not throw them away,  
But fondly will cherish tho' the uppers wear out,  
And the soles are all ready to sail up the spout,  
For there's no shoes in the world possess so much ease  
For my poor tired feet as my old Reveilles.

The worldly may scoff and at sight of them sneer,  
But I'll cling to them yet for old memories dear;  
They covered my feet when a Plebe in distress,  
And into my Yearling year helped me to press;  
As long as winds whistle and waves roll o'er the seas  
Will I look with kind glance on my old Reveilles.

At last when the policeman shall come in some day,  
And gather the "rimnants" that I've thrown away,  
And bears the old rubbish to the heap down below,  
Along with the rest in the dust and the snow,  
You'll see them there lying, producers of ease  
Sad, lonely, neglected, my old Reveilles.

Others and newer may take their old place,  
And with plenteous blacking shine smiles in my face,  
My feet will look smaller and better perhaps,  
But in the sweet slumbers that come after Taps,  
Foremost and fairest of all visions that please,  
Will be happy remembrances of my old Reveilles.

Let them go while a tear drop in memory flows  
Gently down from my eye-lid and rests on my nose,  
But little they'll reck of my sorrow or pain,  
Nor of my longing to get them again.  
While over their resting-place cold winds scatter leaves  
Where they peacefully sleep—Farewell, Reveilles!

Artillery drills come in each year of the four. The first year the drill is on foot at the light battery; the next year with horses at the light battery; the third year on foot at the siege, mortar and sea-coast batteries, and the last year first classmen act as assistants to the instructors. Light battery drill with horses is one that all cadets thoroughly enjoy. There are six pieces (each with its caisson) in the battery, and there is great rivalry between the cadets and drivers at each piece, especially in executing some maneuver that ends with firing.

In my day the target for mortar drill was a barrel on a post, placed at the foot of Cro' Nest, 1,000 yards or more from the mortar battery, near "Trophy Point." One day I was "gunner" of a piece and was fortunate enough to knock the barrel from its post, a feat rarely accomplished, as it is very difficult to strike a small object with a mortar.



One of the guns of the sea-coast battery was a very large one, the diameter of the bore being twenty inches. One day at drill at this battery, while at "rest," one of the cadets, who was a little fellow, crawled into the bore of this big gun. After getting in a certain distance the more he tried to get out the farther in he went, hence he had to be pulled out by the heels. The instructor, appreciating the situation, threatened to report him for being off limits.

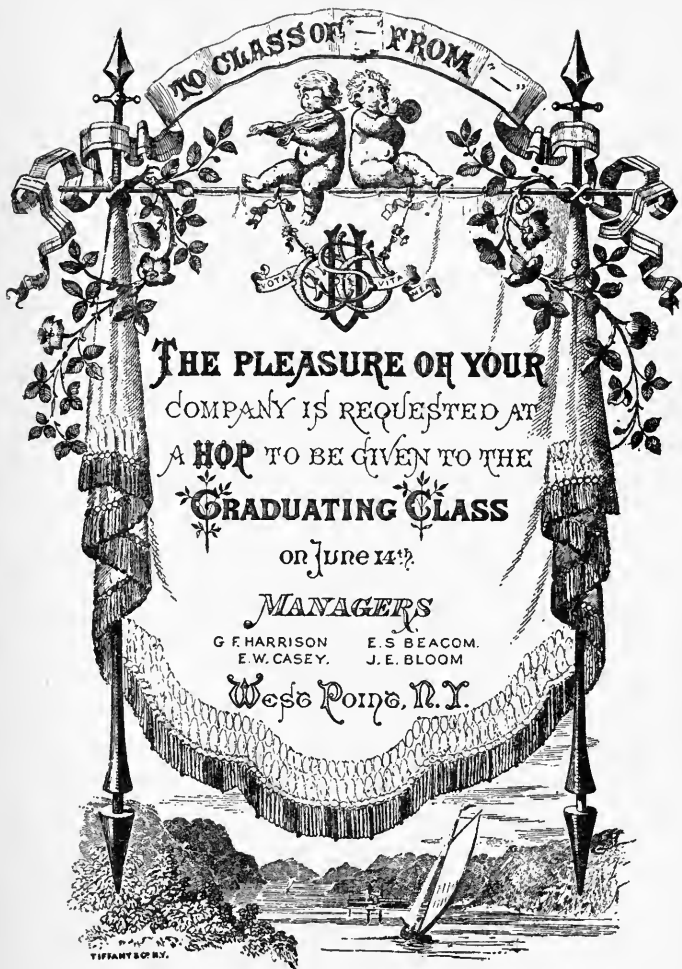
Cadets are taught photography, and on pleasant May days second classmen can often be seen with cameras taking views of the different buildings and of the many pretty sights about the Point.

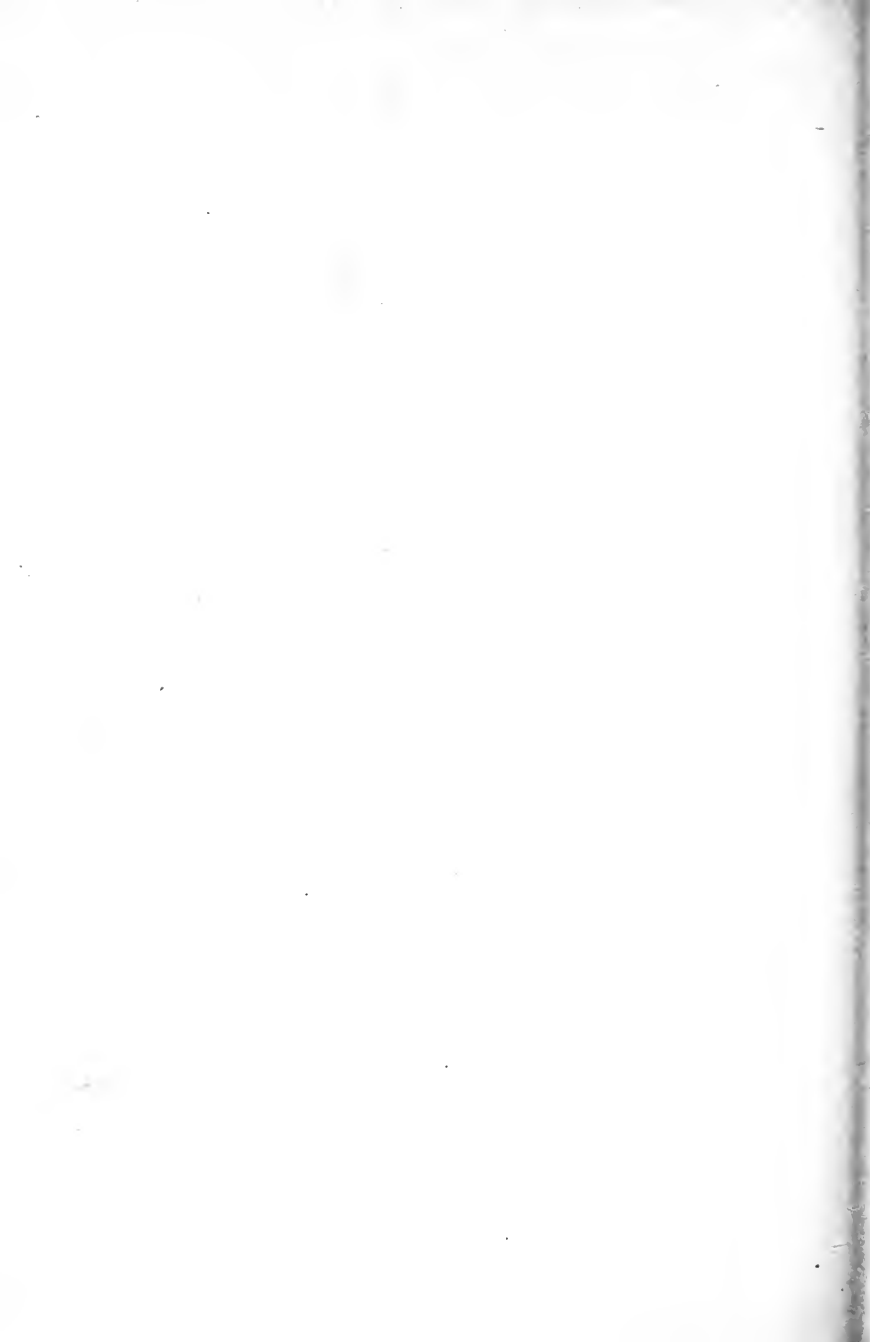
One pleasant afternoon in May a classmate and I were walking along Professor's Row, near the north gate, and we saw three pretty young ladies, daughters of Professor W——r, sitting on their porch, so we stopped for a chat. The ladies said that they would play the piano and sing for us if we would go in the house. My friend declined the invitation, because he was too near found on demerits to risk being caught off cadet limits, and we did not have a permit. Up to that time I had had but few demerits and had been lucky in never having been caught off limits, so I decided to accept the invitation. When there was no officer in sight I went in, and passed a merry hour with the young ladies. But when I came out an officer saw me, and reported me for being off cadet limits. I wrote an explanation, stating where I was at the

time, and that was all. "Off Limits" is a serious offense, especially in an old cadet, and besides receiving five or six demerits, I was given six "extras" officially designated as "Saturday afternoon punishments." This I did not relish at all, especially as I had never had any before, but I learned to my sorrow what an extra meant, and I had ample time to ponder over the gravity of my offense as I paced to and fro, across the area of barracks, carrying my rifle "just so," from 2 p. m. till ten minutes before dress parade at sunset. I never till then fully realized the length of the days in May and June. When it came time to go to camp again I had walked only four of the six extras, and as there are no "extras" in camp, for the remaining two I was given two weeks "confinement," i. e., I had to be in my tent all the time for the first two weeks in my first class camp, except, of course, when absent from it on duty or by special permission.

Just before this Academic year closed my class selected its quota of managers for the coming summer hops, and also all of the managers for the hop that my class gave to the graduating class. The invitations and programs for these dances were sent to friends, and they began to arrive with the Board of Visitors and old graduates who came to attend the Alumni meeting and dinner in the bachelor officers' part of the Mess Hall.

Graduates often wear a modest little button that was adopted many years ago at an Alumni meeting at West Point. It is a miniature "bell button"





in shape, with the eye soldered to a circular base piece. The part next to the eye is a gray stone, emblematical of the cadet gray; then there is a gold band for the class motto, then a dark blue stone symbolical of the army blue; then a round piece of gold for the year of graduation. The date piece is fastened on its under side to the eye piece, through holes in the stones.

The graduating class this year was an unusually large one and fears were entertained that there would not be vacancies enough in the army for all of this class, for the promotion of the meritorious non-commissioned officers from among the enlisted men in the army and also for the usual number of appointments as second lieutenants in the army, direct from civil life, members of this class were encouraged to resign immediately upon graduation. As only one graduate of this class resigned his commission as second lieutenant, the number of appointments direct from civil life was materially reduced.

Ever since the foundation of the Academy the graduates have been promoted to the lowest commissioned grade in the army, and only eleven of the 3,741 have resigned immediately upon graduation. In 1880 four of the eleven took advantage of an Act of Congress approved June 23, 1879, which provided "That each member of the graduating classes of the Military Academy of 1879 and 1880, after graduation, may elect, with the assent of the Secretary of War, to receive the gross sum

of seven hundred and fifty dollars and mileage to his place of residence; and the acceptance of this gross sum shall render him ineligible to appointment in the army, except in the event of war, until two years after his graduation; and the amount required to defray the expenditure herein provided for shall be paid out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated." The Act of Congress approved May 17, 1886, given in the appendix, is now in force.





PROFESSORS' ROW.

FLIRTATION WALK.

KOSCIUSZCO'S GARDEN.





## CHAPTER IX.

## THE GRADUATE.

AFTER the June examinations were over we went into camp again at the usual place. This year it was named "Camp Thayer" in honor of a former superintendent of the Academy, and as first classmen have precedence over all other cadets, it was "our camp." Among the young lady visitors were many who had been to the Point for several summers. They seemed like old friends and the pleasure of meeting again was mutual. The first thing of importance for us to do was to arrange for the celebration of the Fourth of July and for a special hop that evening. We elected officers to conduct the holiday exercises and to have charge of the special hop. It was not obligatory upon any one to attend those festivities, but as the weather was perfect and as there were no other inviting places to go, everybody who could be present attended the exercises held in the morning in the pretty little chapel, and in the evening some witnessed the handsome pyrotechnic display, while others attended the hop, and as usual the Mess Hall was beautifully decorated and used for the special hop.

In my day, by special dispensation, twelve cadets of the first class were permitted to take meals at the Misses Thompson, who lived in General Washington's old log Headquarter House, in Professor's Row. These ladies were quite old when I knew them; the oldest of the three sisters died of old age shortly before I went there to board. It was not easy to get a seat at the Misses Thompson's table, and when a cadet secured one without any conditions imposed he generally "willed it to his plebe." And this is the way I obtained mine. My predecessor had a seat there and he willed it to me, but as I could not go there until I became a first classman certain members of the three classes ahead of me had the seat on condition that it should come to me when I became eligible. But this was not all, as may be seen from the following (old form) permit:

West Point, New York, June 19, 18—.

Cadet R—d, Private 2nd Class "C" Co., has permission to take his meals at the Misses Thompson (to have the seat last occupied by Cadet R—p), his name having been proposed and accepted.

E. U—n,  
Comdt. Cadets.

J. F. S—h,  
Com'd'g Co. "C."

Approved:

T. H. R—r,  
Superintendent.

The father of these old ladies rendered most valuable services to General Washington during the Revolutionary War, and as his family was left

**JULY 4**

**18....**

# **ANNIVERSARY**

**OF THE**

## **Independence of the United States**

**CELEBRATION AND HOP BY**

### **THE CORPS OF CADETS**

**TO WHICH**

The pleasure of your Company is respectfully requested.  
Ceremonies in the Chapel to commence at  
Ten A. M.

---

Marshall,  
CADET COFFIN.

Orator,  
CADET TOTTEN.

Reader,  
CADET EATON.

President,  
CADET HOYLE.

Hop Commencing at Eight P. M.

Floor Managers:  
CADET BIRNEY, CADET O'CONNOR, CADET LA POINT.

Pyrotechnic Display on the Cavalry Plain.



in humble circumstances they were permitted to live at the Point and board twelve cadets. We used to think that Miss Amelia was about ninety years old and that Miss Kate was seventy-five. Miss Kate for months talked of making a trip to New York, but finally Miss Amelia said: "Catharine could not go, as she was too young and giddy."

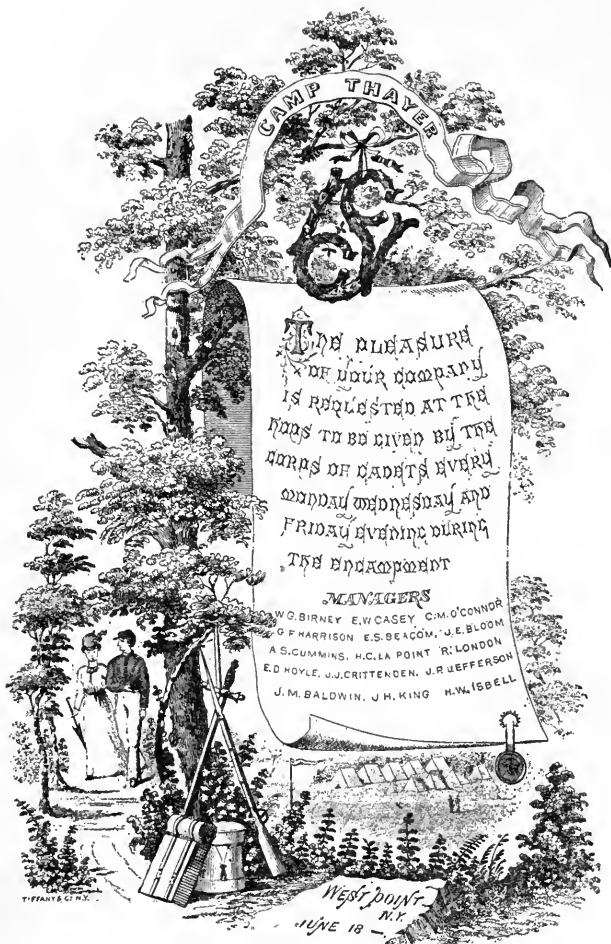
There was an old saying at the Point in my day that "extras breed extras," and I found it so in my case. While I was serving the two weeks confinement that were given me, in lieu of the last two of the six extras for "Off Limits," an old boy friend from home visited the Point, and I got permission to be with him in rear of the guard tents for half an hour. We could not talk about everything we wanted to in half an hour, so I told him just how to run the gauntlet, that is, how to cross the sentinel's post and get to my tent, which he did. At that particular time of day nearly all of my classmates were out of camp; some on permit visiting friends at the hotel, some boating and others anywhere fancy took them. I had the walls of my tent down, so that my friend could not be seen, for it was a violation of the regulations to have a citizen in the body of the camp. He and I were having a good time talking over boyhood days. R——s, a classmate, was officer of the day, and thinking that I was lonesome he came around to cheer me up, saying that my two weeks was nearly over, but, alas, he had no sooner opened my tent than he saw my friend, and as the officer of

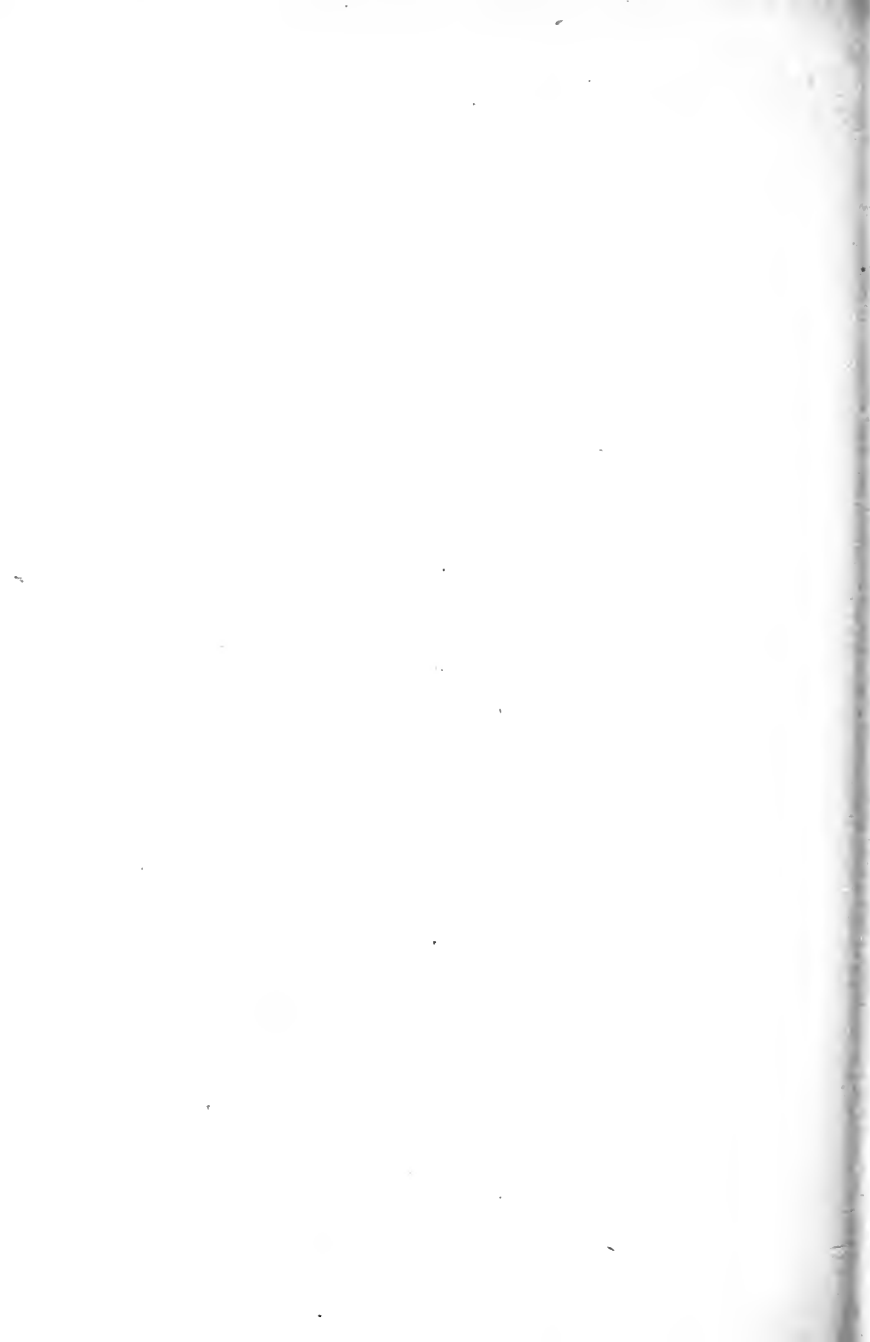
the day is "on honor" to report all violations of the regulations that he sees, he had to report me for "Citizen in tent," and to send my friend at once out of camp. I have never seen that friend since to tell him that I was given two weeks' confinement for that violation of the regulations.

C——s was a Cadet Captain, and one day when walking with a lady between the camp and the hotel, the lady raised her parasol, and C——s, to be polite, carried it for her. An officer saw him with the parasol and reported him. For this serious offense he was reduced to the ranks. It was not long afterward that the young lady saw him carrying a rifle and pacing to and fro on Post No. 2, but as he did not wish further punishment he did not speak to her as she crossed his post; he waited until he was relieved and then told her why.

We spent some time out in Fort Clinton digging trenches and making fascines, gabions and a sap roller, thus imitating methods used in the attack and defense of a fortified place. We also spent some time in the laboratory making rockets, bombs and other articles used at times by the military in time of war. With the assistance of the plebes we constructed pontoon bridges some distance out into the Hudson.

In my day we played base ball occasionally, but it was not a very popular game at the Point, not like football has been of recent years. Boating was allowed then, and the first, second and third classes each owned a number of row boats, and



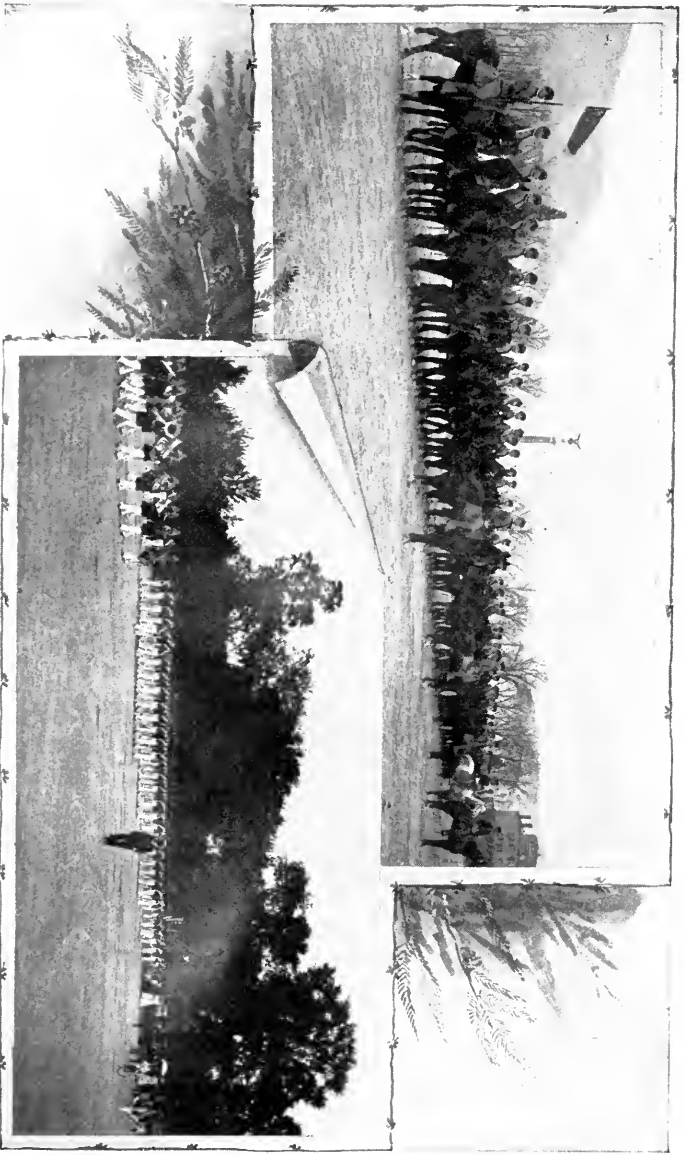




during camp and in barracks on Saturday afternoons the boats were always in demand. Now first classmen only enjoy boating privileges.

One evening, when I was officer of the guard, not long after taps, the sentinel on No. 1 challenged: "Who comes there?" and as I was awake and in the first guard tent, I heard the reply: "Friend with lemons," and also the sentinel's call, "Halt! Friend with lemons, Corporal of the Guard, Post No. 1." As the reply was an unusual one I went out, and seeing a man in civilian dress, standing alone, I directed the Corporal to advance the friend with lemons. The man advanced and began to deliver lemons. He had lemons in every pocket, and he had a good many pockets, too. There were more lemons than the Corporal and I could carry (for there are no pockets in cadet uniforms), so I called other members of the guard to help us carry lemons. The gentleman proved to be an old army officer who had entered the army from private life and earned a Brigadier's star during the war. He said he thought he would treat the guard that night, and that while I sent to the tank for a bucket of ice water he would go back to the hotel (not far from camp) for sugar. About the time two members of the guard returned with ice water No. 1 challenged again, and the answer this time was "Friend with sugar." It did not take long to advance the friend with sugar and to disarm him, not only of sugar, but of a package of cakes, too. We were soon feasting, and it seemed to please the

General to see us enjoying his treat. He knew that we violated the regulations by admitting him to camp, but he promised not to report us. He then treated us to cigars, and he and I sat under the trees for an hour or two discussing topics of interest to cadets. In speaking of the hops I told the General how B——y, C——s and I had taken many lessons in dancing, and that we were too timid to venture on the floor at a hop, but that we had agreed with one another to attend our next hop, and to waltz or treat at the Dutch woman's. The next evening was the time for the three to dance, and just as I was ready to start for the hall the General called for me, and we went to the hop together. As we approached the Academic Building we observed that the hop room was well filled. We went to a corner of the room, and the General surprised me by presenting me to his wife, for he had talked as though he was alone at the Point. His good wife said that she had come to the hop in the hotel 'bus with other ladies. The music ceased and a classmate brought a very pretty young lady over near us, thanked her and said that she was the best dancer in the room. The General again surprised me by saying: "Mr. R——d, this is my daughter." At that moment the orchestra struck up a waltz and the young lady said: "Come, Mr. R——d, this is our dance." I protested that I did not waltz, but she put my arm around her waist, saying: "Papa has told me of your agreement to waltz to-night or to treat



CAVALRY DRILL.

BATTALION MARCHING FROM CAMP TO BARRACKS.



at the Dutch woman's, so come on;" and I have waltzed ever since then. After I got started to waltz I found the hops very attractive places to be, and I was more than sorry that I had not met Miss S——r long before I did. It was a long way from the hotel to the hop-room, too far for young ladies who danced much to walk, so they generally rode, but the cadets could not ride with them, as it was "Off Limits" to get into a vehicle. There were always plenty of young ladies at the hops, and some of them traveled several miles to attend; some came from Highland Falls, some from Cold Springs and others from Garrison's, besides those from the West Point Hotel. They may come from greater distances now that there is the West Shore Railroad to travel on.

At one of the hops I met a New York lady. She was a good dancer and a good talker, too, but she was not very well posted on the history of our country. She asked me what state I was from, and when I replied "Indiana," she said: "From way out there! You have plenty of buffalo and other wild animals there, don't you?"

There is something strange about the partiality young ladies manifest for the cadets. I have seen many an instance where a young lady would use all her power to be with a certain cadet, and at his graduating hop and afterward she would bestow her favors on some member of the next class; a cadet and an officer, although one and the same man, were different persons in her eyes. But the

young lady, to succeed, had to be very careful of her conduct toward the cadets in the next class that she wished to be friendly with after the first class graduated, because if she had ever been rude to them they would have nothing to do with her.

Our summer hops began at 8 and closed at 11 p. m., but we could stay later at the Fourth of July hop, the last summer one, and at the graduating hop in June. The following were the popular dances in my day:

Waltz, Galop, Deux Temps, Trois Temps, Lanciers, Redowa, Polka, Polka-Redowa, Quadrille, chottische and Medley.

#### AT THE HOP.

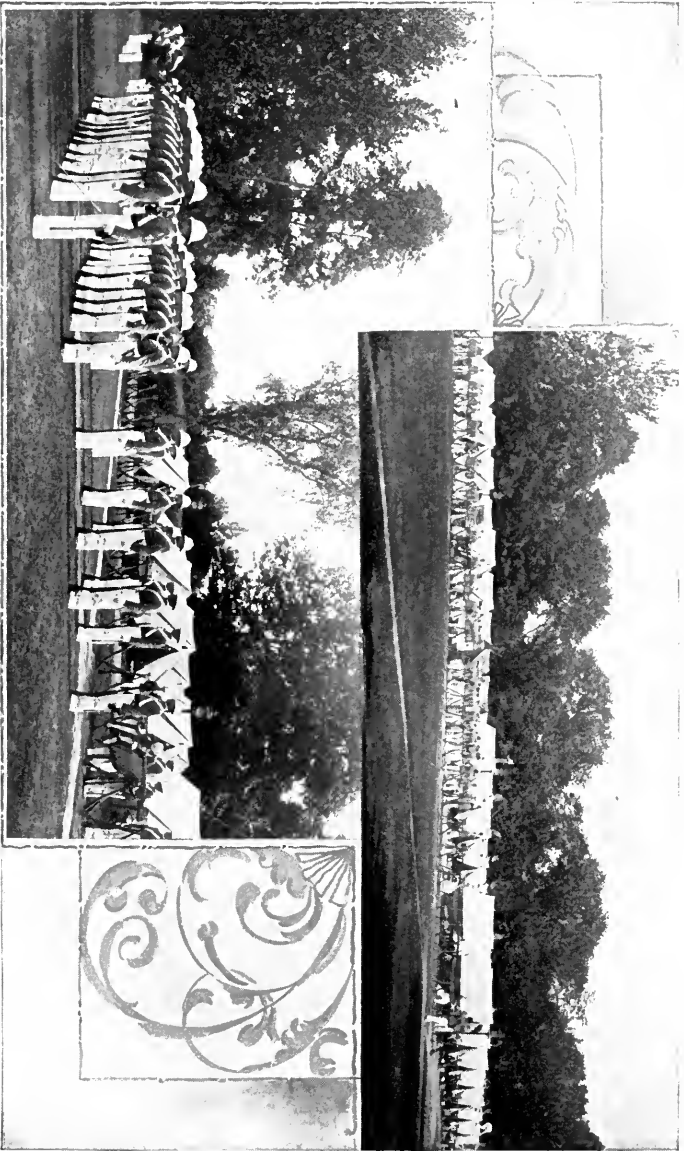
“Yes, I’m here, I suppose you’re delighted,  
 You’d heard I was not coming down?  
 Why I’ve been here a week—rather early—  
 I know, but its horrid in town.  
 At Boston? Most certainly, thank you,  
 This music is perfectly sweet;  
 Of course I like dancing in summer,  
 It’s warm but I don’t mind the heat.  
 The clumsy thing! Oh! how he hurt me!  
 I really can’t dance any more—  
 Let’s walk—see they’re forming a Lanciers;  
 These square dances are such a bore,  
 My cloak, oh! I really don’t need it,  
 Well carry it—so, in the folds,  
 I hate it, but Ma made me bring it,  
 She’s frightened to death about colds.  
 This is rather cooler than dancing,  
 They’re lovely piazzas up here;  
 Those lanterns look sweet in the bushes,  
 It’s lucky the night is so clear.

I am rather tired of this corner—  
 Very well, if you like, I don't care—  
 But you'll have to sit on the railing—  
 You see there is only one chair.  
 So long since you've seen me!—Oh! ages—  
 Let's see, why it's ten days ago.  
 Seems years—Oh! of course—don't look spooney,  
 It isn't becoming you know.  
 How bright the stars seem to-night, don't they?  
 What was it you said about eyes?  
 How sweet!—Why you must be a poet—  
 One never can tell till he tries.  
 Why can't you be sensible, Harry?  
 I don't like men's arms on my chair,  
 Be still, if you don't stop that nonsense  
 I'll get up and leave you, so there!  
 Oh! please don't—I don't want to hear it—  
 A boy like you, talking of love.  
 My answer—Well, Sir, you shall have it—  
 Just wait till I get off my glove.  
 See that? Well you needn't look tragic,  
 Its only a solitaire ring—  
 Of course, I am proud of it, very—  
 It's rather an elegant thing.  
 Engaged!—yes—why, didn't you know it?  
 I thought the news must have reached here,  
 Why, the wedding will be in October,  
 The happy man? Charley LeClear.  
 Why don't blame me—I tried to stop you,  
 But you would go on like a goose.  
 I'm sorry it happened—forget it—  
 Don't think of it—don't—What's the use?  
 There's somebody coming—don't look so—  
 Get up on the railing again—  
 Can't you seem as if nothing had happened?  
 I never saw such geese as men.  
 Ah! Charley, you've found me! a galop?  
 The 'Bahn frei'? Yes, take my bouquet,  
 And my fan if you will, now I'm ready—  
 You'll excuse me, of course, Mr. Gray."

One day I received a letter from home, saying that my father, mother and sister were coming east and would pay me a visit. I wrote at once and said that I would be delighted to see them any time after the fifteenth of July, but not before then, as I would be too busy to see much of them. The fact was I would not get out of confinement before the fifteenth of July, but I did not tell them. They came the latter part of July, and we were delighted to be together several hours every day during the visit. They were charmed with the beauty of the place, and my mother said when I returned home next year that I need not take my trunk in the back yard again to open it, for now that she had seen what a sweet and clean place West Point was she was satisfied there were no bedbugs there.

There is a good deal of cactus, of the prickly pear variety, growing on the hills about the Point, and one day when B——m's father and mother were there from Cincinnati they wanted some to take home with them, and Mr. B——m kindly offered to send some to my father, if I wished him to. Of course I wished it. I expected the folks at home to speak about receiving the cactus, hence I did not refer to it for a long time, and when I did my mother told me not to speak of it to my father, as he was very angry about the cactus. It appeared that Mr. B——m put it in a box and sent it prepaid to my father, and as he supposed that I had written about it, he did not write. My father





GUARD MOUNTING IN CAMP. COLOR LINE.



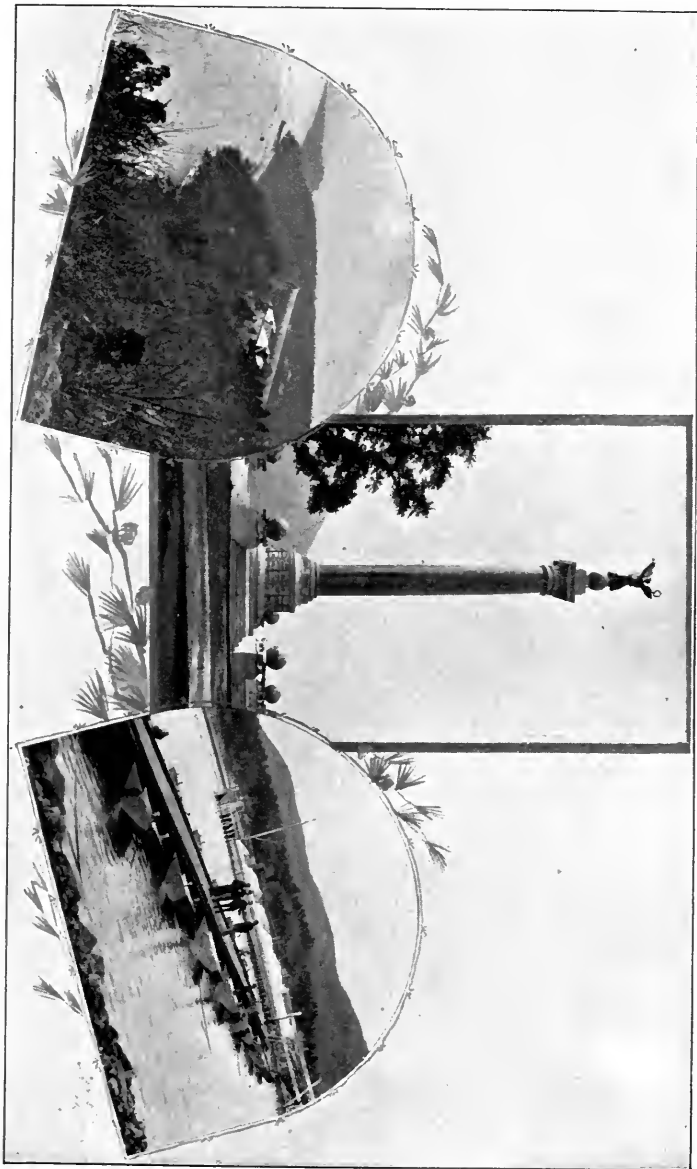
opened the box and not knowing anything about cactus, he took it cautiously in his hands, with the natural painful results. He dropped the cactus, and, as luck went, he rubbed his hands on his face and neck, and they too became filled with the stickers.

Just across the south line of cadet limits in my day was Kinsley's apple orchard, and many a cadet run it there for apples. One day Mr. Kinsley, himself an old graduate of the Academy, caught several cadets in his orchard, so he hitched up at once and drove to the superintendent's office to report the case. The superintendent said that if Mr. Kinsley could identify the cadets they should be punished; he said he could identify them. So when the battalion was formed Mr. Kinsley passed down the line, but failed to identify them, for the reason, he said, that all cadets looked alike.

One Saturday afternoon four of us first classmen stuffed pillow cases in the breasts of our coats and deliberately went to Kinsley's for apples, and we proposed to help ourselves, too. Kinsley's house was in one corner of the orchard and there were stone fences around and through the center of the orchard. We went to different trees and found all the apples we wanted on the ground, so we set to work filling our pillow cases. B—y filled his, set it by a stone fence on the far side from the house, and then boldly climbed the fence and ventured to trees nearer to the house. His approach made the chickens cackle and the ducks quack, thus attract-

ing a lady's attention. She came out of the house and spoke to B——y, who had three or four apples in his hands. We heard their voices and then emptied most of our apples on the ground and ran away, as there was no use of any more of us getting caught than necessary. After we had been back in barracks awhile we went over to see how B——y had gotten away. He said that Mrs. Kinsley told him that she did not object to any one taking two or three apples as he had done, but that she did not want the cadets to carry them off by the bag full. She then asked him who we were, and he told her we might be plebes, as older cadets knew better than to do such a thing. We asked him what he did with his pillow case of apples, and he said: "You don't suppose I had the cheek, after my narrow escape, to bring away a bag full, do you?" Notwithstanding this statement, and the fact that B——y was the first Captain of the Corps, we put our hands up into his chimney, moved a stick and down fell his pillow case of apples.

Along in December, when we felt confident of graduating the next June, we began to discuss what we would adopt as our "Class Ring." Jewelers in New York, Philadelphia and other cities, knowing that it was customary for each class at the Point to adopt a certain handsome ring as its class ring, submitted samples to us. Upon receiving about twenty samples we held class meetings, and after much discussion part of the class want-



RIDING HALL.

BATTLE MONUMENT.

PONTON BRIDGE.



ed to adopt one of the designs while the rest wanted to adopt another one. Finally we agreed to abide by a majority vote, but when the ballots were counted there was a tie. Then we agreed to take two pieces of paper of the same size, and to write the maker's name of one of the two rings on one paper, and the maker's name of the other ring on the other paper, to put the two papers in a cap, shake them up, hold the cap above the head, and to let T——r draw one paper which should decide the case. This was done and ratified; the ring adopted was a gold ring with a large setting; there were thirteen stars around the setting, and on one side under the stars there was an eagle with one wing spread; on the other side under the stars was a helmet on crossed rifles with the last two figures of the year of our graduation in the lower angle of the cross, and from here around to the eagle was a chain. It was agreed that each member of the class could select his own setting, and some selected amethyst, some topaz and others blood-stone or onyx. It was also agreed that each member could use his pleasure about having the "Class Motto" cut into the setting. A Latin motto was suggested, but many of us opposed it, because the Academic Board had not made Latin a part of the course of study at West Point, but after much deliberation, my class, by a close vote, decided to add Latin to our course, and that "Omnia pro Patria" should embody the entire course of Latin for our class, and for fear that we might for-

get it we adopted it as the motto of our class. We then agreed that the motto, when cut in the setting of the class ring, should be put on a ribbon, partially enclosing the last two figures of our graduating year. I now remember my Latin course better than any other course of study, for I have never forgotten that "Omnia pro Patria" means "All for Country." About this time we also selected the photographer that should make our Class Albums, but left it to each member to make his own selection of pictures for it. There is an official photographer now. As each cadet had to pay for his own ring and album, it was agreed that he could buy them at his pleasure, but early in January nearly every one in the class was wearing his class ring and in May the albums began to arrive.

One day a misunderstanding arose between a yearling and a plebe that nothing but a fight could settle. Seconds and a referee were chosen, and they and others wishing to see the fight repaired to old Fort Clinton. The fight was begun and several rounds fought, when one of those present heard footsteps, and peeping through the brush he saw a blue uniform and gave the alarm. A stampede followed, and in a moment the whole party scaled the parapet, and almost tumbled over one another in their mad haste down toward Flirtation Walk, where trees and bushes covered their retreat. The referee declared the fight off. The principals respected one another's fighting qualities and afterward became warm friends. The



only one in the party that the officer recognized was B——p, the referee and a captain of my class, and for being present at the fight he was reduced to the ranks.

## A PERMIT (OLD FORM).

West Point, March —, 18—.

Cadet ——, Private 1st Class "B" Co., has permission to get a drawing table from the Engineering Drawing Room and keep it in his quarters until he finishes his drawing of Noizet's Front, having been in the hospital and excused from attending recitations for over a week, he was not able to complete the drawing in the Academy.

\_\_\_\_\_,  
Com'd'g Co "B."

Respectfully referred to the Professor of Engineering,

By command of

Col. \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_,  
Adjutant.

Respectfully returned app'd,

\_\_\_\_\_,  
Prof. of Eng.

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_,  
Superintendent.

In January, after the examinations were over, the daily papers informed us that the Secretary of War had written to the Superintendent saying that it was his intention to require the presence of the Corps of Cadets in Washington on March 4th next, on the occasion of the inauguration of the President-elect, a graduate of the Academy.

The secretary did this because he was gratified by the conduct and marked improvement and bearing of the young gentlemen at the Academy, and he believed the duties which a trip of this kind would require them to perform would be a relaxation from the close confinement to which they were subjected at the Academy. Furthermore, he desired to show the people gathered at the Capitol from all parts of the country a body of young military men which he believed in discipline, drill and orderly appearance and the qualities that make a military cadet could not be surpassed.

In due time the necessary orders were issued, and with knapsacks on our backs we arrived in Washington on the 3d of March. We were quartered at the Ebbitt House, and in the afternoon gave a drill and dress parade before a large audience in front of the Arlington. In the evening we were given the freedom of the city, the Delinquency Book having been left at the Academy. On the 4th we joined the procession and took the post of honor at the head of the long column. We were without overcoats, and it was fearfully cold, too. Some of us wore double suits of underclothing, and as many pairs of white gloves as we could and hold on to our guns. Bands playing (ours at the head, too), banners and flags waving, bright eyes beaming upon us, and delicate hands applauding us as we marched on Pennsylvania avenue, made us forget all about overcoats. We stood in front of General Grant while the oath as President

# A CONCERT

BY THE  
ORCHESTRAL BAND

WILL BE GIVEN IN

THE LIBRARY,  
THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 18—.

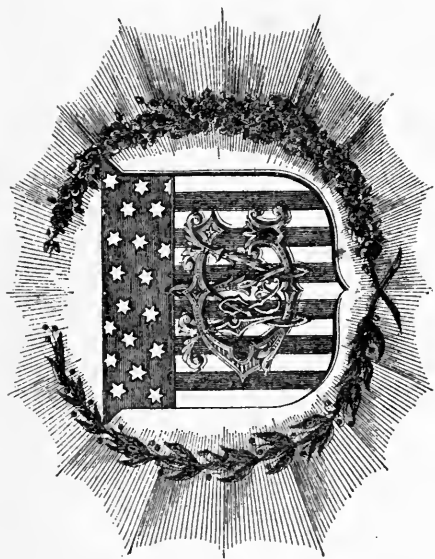
COMMENCING AT 7:30 O'CLOCK, P. M.

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## PROGRAMME.

(No. 7.)

- No. 1. March, Tannhauser.....Wagner
2. Overture, Ruy Blas.....Mendelssohn
3. Reminiscences of Weber.....Godfrey
4. Reveille Galop.....Rehm
5. Selection, Moses in Egypt.....Rossini
6. Potpourri, Musical Tour Through Europe....Conradi
8. Potpourri, A Musical Joke.....Sass



*You are respectfully invited to attend the*  
**GRAND ANNUAL BANQUET**  
*on the evening of March 4<sup>th</sup> 18*

# B

Bruce Combing.  
 Simon Cameron.  
 O. P. Martin  
 Mrs. A. Logan.  
 M. H. Carpenter  
 H. H. Parkweather.  
 G. L. Marshall  
 C. A. Eldridge  
 J. B. Chaffee.  
 B. F. Butler.  
 P. M. B. Young  
 John W. G. Hancock.  
 J. H. Barnes.  
 J. H. Wilson.  
 Adam B. F. Sands.  
 Gen. C. R. P. Rogers  
 Justices Wyles & McArthur  
 Col. Amos Webster  
 A. M. Clapp  
 J. H. Brooks.  
 Joshua Peley  
 W. J. Mustang  
 J. G. Berret.  
 Wm. Turnbull

H. Hamlin.  
 B. Chandler  
 F. A. Sawyer.  
 H. B. Anthony  
 J. J. Merrill  
 J. A. Garfield  
 W. L. Davis  
 A. R. Cotton  
 O. D. Conger  
 H. Maynard.  
 J. A. Galden.  
 Gen. M. C. Meigs.  
 A. A. Humphreys  
 J. G. Parke.  
 J. Leaton  
 Mr. Justice Chase.  
 Atty. Gen. Arthur  
 Wm. Dickson  
 B. Perley Peare.  
 J. R. Bond  
 A. Chas.  
 R. L. Blackford.  
 Samuel Cross.  
 John A. Baker.

A. G. Thurman  
 J. W. Stevenson.  
 Eugene Casserly.  
 J. F. Boyard  
 J. W. Patterson  
 L. D. Ireland.  
 J. H. Platt Jr.  
 A. A. Largent  
 G. A. Halsey.  
 H. W. Barry.  
 Gen. W. F. Sherman.  
 A. B. Dyer  
 A. B. Eaton.  
 Admirals D. D. Porter.  
 Dr. J. C. Palmer.  
 Field. Miller. Bradley & Strong  
 H. D. Cooke.  
 Thos. L. Hume.  
 H. Kellburn  
 J. H. Kauffmann  
 N. Wilson  
 D. J. Evans  
 H. M. Hutchinson.  
 E. L. Hillier.  
 P. F. Hochmeyer.

W. T. Hamilton  
 J. D. Spalden  
 M. W. Hanscom.  
 H. G. Davis  
 J. G. Blaine  
 Fernando Wood  
 D. C. Gulbony  
 Thos. Spenn  
 D. W. Voorhes  
 Jas. B. Bark.  
 E. D. Jew mead  
 R. B. Mercey  
 B. Alward  
 L. M. Goldsborough.  
 E. T. Dunn. 1844  
 Ch. Justice Waller  
 J. W. Thompson  
 John B. Blish.  
 W. F. Mottlingly  
 W. R. Collins  
 J. G. Elmstead  
 J. W. Butler  
 G. A. Bartlett  
 W. D. Croft

of the United States was administered to him. We then marched at the head of the procession along Pennsylvania avenue and passed General Grant on a reviewing stand in the White House grounds, where we fell out of the column and saw the balance of the procession pass. Next to the cadets came some battalions of U. S. Artillery, then the midshipmen from Annapolis, a battalion of U. S. Marines, then regiment after regiment of militia, then ex-Presidents and Vice-Presidents, the U. S. Supreme Court, U. S. Court of Claims, the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, the U. S. Senators and Representatives, Foreign Ministers, Presidential Electors and tens of thousands more. Of all the military I was especially pleased to see the Second Connecticut, a magnificent body of well-drilled men, whose lines were perfect as they passed us, and extended from curb to curb.

After the review was over we returned to the Ebbitt House, nearly frozen, but we "thawed out" in time to attend the inaugural ball in the evening, and here we had to dance or freeze, as it was bitter cold there. The decorations were beautiful. There were mottos and coats of arms of the United States, and of all the States and Territories in the Union, shining among the festoons of the many flags of red, white and blue; then there were flags and coats of arms of many foreign nations. Everybody at this grand ball had to present a ticket of admission, except the cadets and midshipmen, whose uniforms admitted them.

Upon our return we were met at the Battery in New York by the famous Seventh (New York) Regiment and escorted to its armory for refreshments. The march up Broadway was amid a continuous line of spectators, who applauded us all the way. We saw the regiment as it passed us to take post as our escort, and we were charmed with their faultless alignments and movements, and were friends at once. The reception was highly appreciated as a distinguishing feature of our trip. We reached West Point at 5 p. m. on the 6th of March, and as we marched to the barracks the band played "When Johnnie Comes Marching Home Again." The regular routine was at once resumed.

In speaking of our drill in Washington one paper said: "The drill of the West Point Cadets on Pennsylvania avenue was certainly splendid. The whole battalion went through their various and intricate maneuvers with such precision that they even surprised some of the military officers who, in company with the Secretary of War, reviewed them. The sight was grand, almost beyond description. Thousands of persons viewed their drills from the streets and indoors, and all were of the opinion expressed above. If there are any better drilled organizations let them come along."

After the January examinations were over first classmen and furloughmen began to count the days until the first of June, and to hold meetings of rejoicing on the hundredth, fiftieth and twenty-fifth

nights. On the hundredth night there was a special program, and the following was sung on that night:

#### THE HUNDREDTH NIGHT.

Come, fellows, listen to my song,  
A pleasant tale and not too long,  
Of scenes familiar to each one.  
Some have passed and some will come.

The hundredth night has come at last,  
And first-class course will soon be past,  
Of Cadet gray they'll take their leave  
And give their white pants to their plebe.

It really makes the "immortals" laugh,  
To think that they'll get in the staff.  
When asked where they are going to go,  
In four years Engineers, you know.

When one more week has had its run,  
The Corps will start for Washington.  
Clean candle boxes will be worn.  
On us, militia will look with scorn.

To drink will be the greatest crime,  
The corps will drill by band clock-time.  
Old Emory will march in grand state  
And Murray behind will get a late.

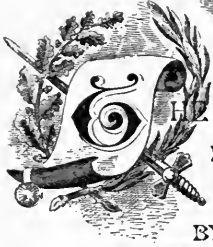
Now, second classmen, don't be glum,  
First-class camp quite soon will come.  
And then you bet you'll cut a swell,  
And spooney "femmes" at the hotel.

Oh! furlough is a very good thing,  
You wear Cit clothes and have your fling.  
The Cit you stuff with famous lies,  
And if he doubts, you punch his eyes.





— FROM —



THE PLEASURE OF YOUR COMPANY IS  
REQUESTED AT THE FAREWELL HOP  
GIVEN TO THE GRADUATING CLASS

BY THE CLASS OF



J HANSELL FRENCH

LUTHER R. HARE

WILLIS WITTICH.

Committee.

J. HANSELL FRENCH

C. E. SCOTT WOOD

WILLIS WITTICH.

W. H. WHEELER

EDGAR B. ROBERTSON

JAS. L. WILSON.

LOUIS A. CRAIG

LOTUS NILES

LUTHER R. HARE.





Plebeistic youth, lift up your head,  
Your yearling path you soon will tread,  
Corporal chevrons will grace your arm,  
Which fills the beasts with much alarm.

And now we've done our level best,  
I've sung this song by request.  
If you don't like it 'tis not a sin,  
To say you think it rather thin.

As our days to wear cadet gray could now be counted by two figures, for the second and last time at the Academy, we selected clothes for "Cit" suits, and as we had all decided to enter the army as "Second Lieutenants," we also selected uniforms and accoutrements for ourselves as officers of that high rank. Military goods dealers and tailors were frequent visitors at the Point on Saturday afternoons, each claiming to give the most for the least money. We had great trouble about the stripes on the pants, the color of the cloth in the shoulder knots and straps, the head gear, etc., because all did not know for certain what arm of service they would be assigned to, and those things are different for each arm. The result was that some gave conditional orders, while others guessed at it and ordered all or a part of their outfits. On the first of June our new clothes began to arrive, and we were permitted to have trunks in our rooms and from that day we began to feel that our cadet days were gone. And it was practically so, too, for even the ladies who came up in June began to show preferences for the coming first classmen,

except, of course, where friendships were strong.

Occasionally cadets were invited to dine at some of the professor's quarters, but even then we were required to get a permit before we could accept invitations. General U——n, the Commandant, made it a rule to invite all of the members of the first class (a few at a time) to dine at his quarters, as may be seen from the following invitation, to-wit:

“The Comd't of Cadets will be pleased to see Cadets London, O'Connor, Paddock and Reed, H. T., at tea this evening after parade till 8:30 p. m.

“June —, 18—.”

As every cadet who graduates at the Military Academy may at his option enter the army as a Second Lieutenant, he can choose his corps or arm of the service in accordance with his class standing, and after the first of June he makes application substantially as follows:

“United States Military Academy,  
West Point, N. Y.

June —, 18—.

The Adjutant General,  
U. S. Army,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:—I have the honor to apply for a commission as 2nd Lieutenant in the U. S. Army in the Arm and Regiments as follows: \_\_\_\_\_ . My address for the ensuing month will be \_\_\_\_\_ .

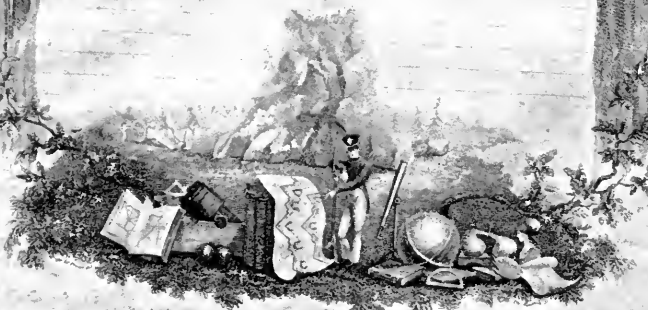
Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

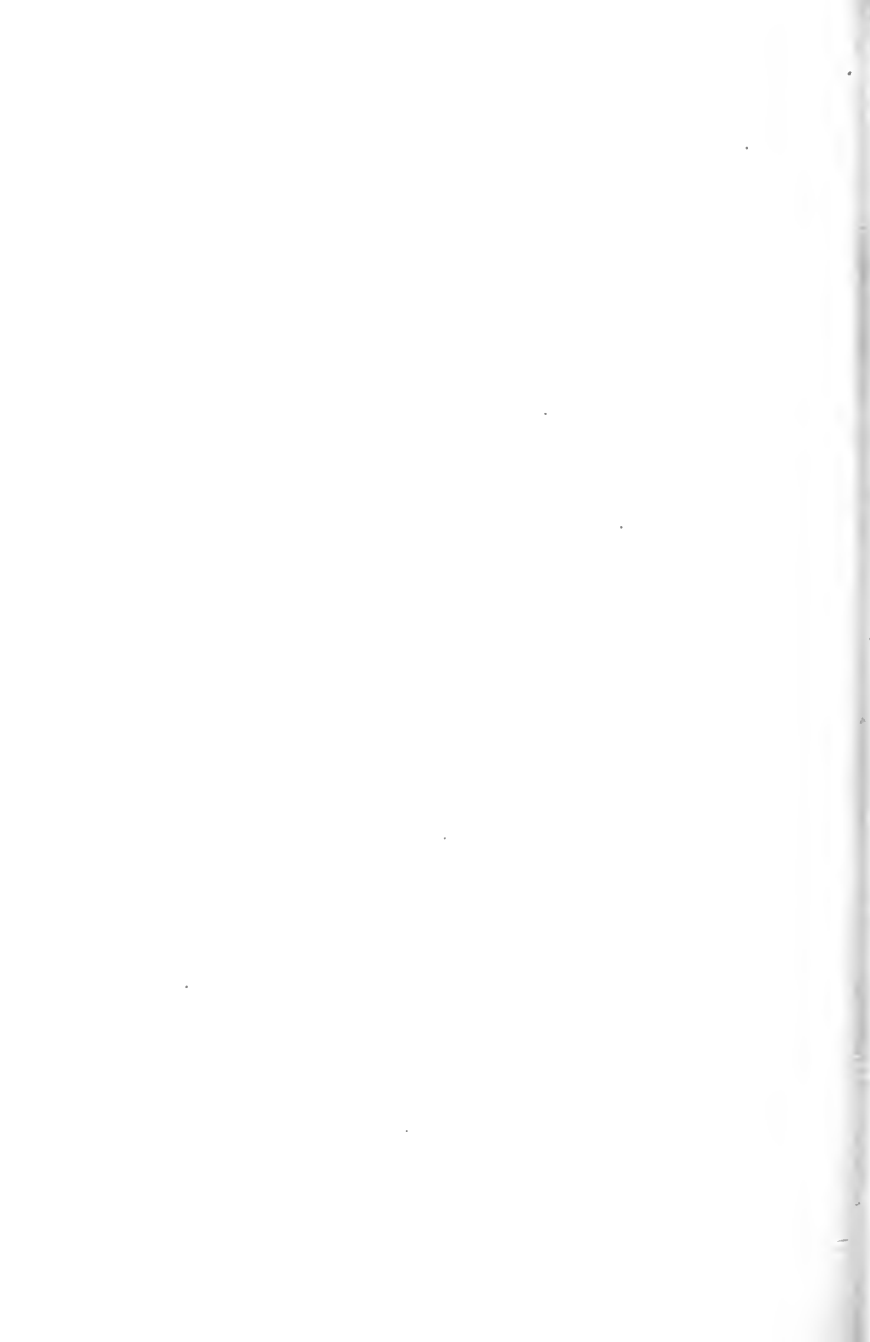
\_\_\_\_\_  
Graduated Cadet, U. S. M. A.”

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

It is known that *John* of the  
 having been carefully examined in all the  
 branches of the ARTS, SCIENCES and of LITERATURE found  
 that the *United States Military Academy* has been judged worthy to  
 receive the *Degree* required by *law* preparation to his advancement  
 In testimony whereof and by reason of authority  
 vested in the *Academy* We do hereby confer upon *them* this  
 Diploma and recommend him to the President for Admission in

— *Order of West Point in the S. C. of New York* —  
 this *...* in the Year of our Lord One thousand  
*Eight Hundred and*





The "diploma" given to graduates is reproduced on another page, and the following is the wording on it, to-wit:

"UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY.

Be it known that Cadet \_\_\_\_\_ of the State of \_\_\_\_\_, having been carefully examined on all of the branches of the Arts, Science and of Literature taught at the United States Military Academy, has been judged worthy to receive the degree required by law, preparatory to his advancement in the U. S. Army.

In testimony whereof, and by virtue of authority vested in the Academic Staff, we do confer upon him this Diploma, and recommend him to the President for promotion in \_\_\_\_\_.

Given at West Point in the State of New York, this — day of \_\_\_\_\_, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and \_\_\_\_\_."

It is signed by the members of the Academic Board in the order of their rank, and entered in the "Register of Graduates" that is kept at the Academy.

On the first of June the President of the United States, the Board of Visitors and others arrived, especially to witness the examinations of the graduating class. The usual salute, review, drills, fire-works and hop were on the program. All the members of my class, after having spent four years at the Academy, fully expected to graduate, but one of the number was found deficient and discharged on the last day. The weather on graduating day was perfect, and at the appointed hour my class was escorted by the Corps of Cadets to the

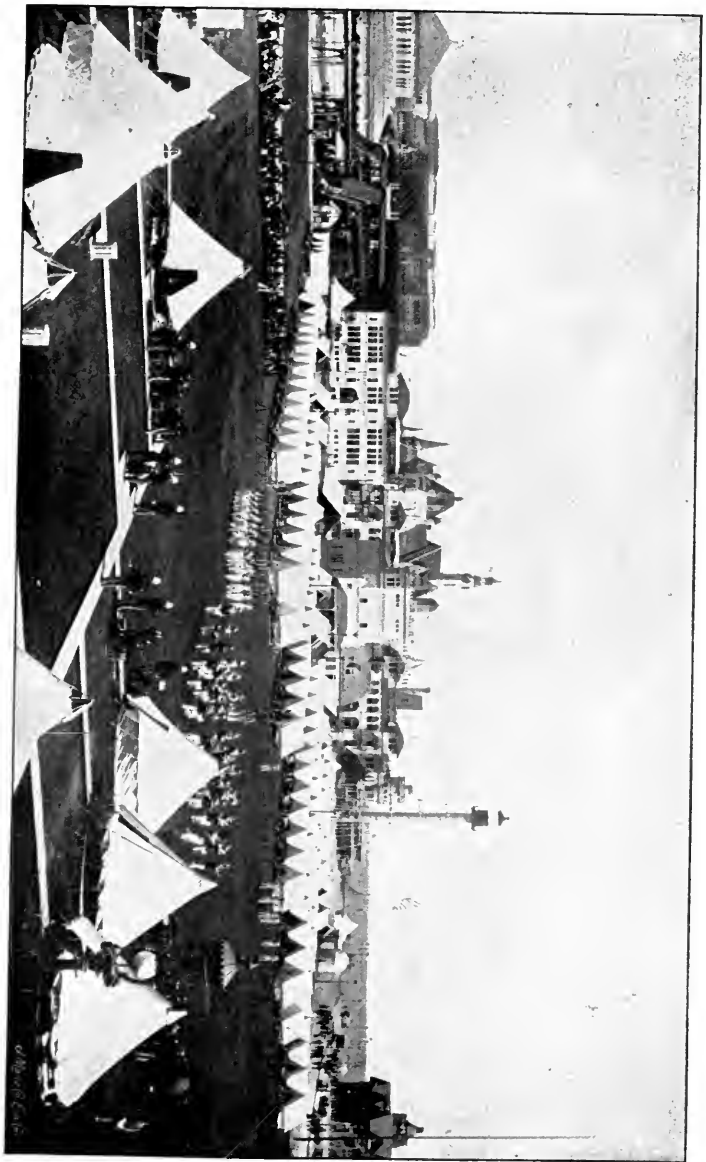
grove in front of the Library, where a stand had been erected for the President, Secretary of War, Board of Visitors and invited guests.

While we were under the big elm trees, surrounded by our schoolmates, professors, instructors and the many others, listening to the Chaplain's prayer, to the sweet music of the band we loved so well, and to the address of the Secretary of War, and receiving diplomas from the President's hand, many thoughts flashed through my mind. It seemed like a dream. I thought of home, of my life since leaving it, and of the future, wondering what it had in store for me. My cadet life had been all and more than I had anticipated it to be, not a care and no one but self to think of for four years, with good food and clothing in plenty, kind friends and just teachers, cheerful surroundings and the most beautiful spot on earth, I was loath to say good-bye to my Cadet Home.

My heart is in the Highlands, shades  
Of night are on my brow;  
Ye pleasant haunts and quiet glades,  
My soul is with you now.



CADETS AT THE WORLD'S FAIR AT CHICAGO, 1893.





## CHAPTER X.

### APPENDIX.

#### APPOINTMENTS. †

**How Made.**—Each Congressional District and Territory—also the District of Columbia—is entitled to have one cadet at the academy. Ten are also appointed at large. The appointments (except those at large) are made by the Secretary of War at the request of the representative, or delegate, in Congress from the district or territory; and the person appointed must be an actual resident of the district or territory from which the appointment is made. The appointments at large are specially conferred by the President of the United States.

**Manner of Making Appointments.**—Applications can be made at any time, by letter to the Secretary of War, to have the name of the applicant placed upon the register that it may be furnished to the proper representative, or delegate, when a vacancy occurs. The application must exhibit the full name, date of birth, and permanent abode of the applicant, with the number of the congressional district in which his residence is situated.

**Date of Appointments.**—Appointments are required by law to be made one year in advance of the date of admission, except in cases where, by reason of death or other cause, a vacancy occurs which cannot be provided for by such appointment in advance. These vacancies are filled in time for the next annual examination.

**Alternates.**—The representative, or delegate, in Congress may nominate a legally qualified second candidate to be designated the alternate. The alternate will receive from the War Department a letter of appointment, and will be examined with the regular appointee, and if duly qualified will be admitted to the academy in the event of the failure of the principal to pass the prescribed preliminary examinations. The alternate will not be allowed to defer his reporting at the place stated till the result of the examination of the regular appointee is known, but must report at the time designated in his

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† Revised to June 1, 1896.

letter of appointment. The alternate, like the nominee, should be designated as nearly one year in advance of date of admission as possible.\*

#### ADMISSION OF CADETS.

Candidates selected by the War Department shall be instructed to appear for mental and physical examination, before Boards of Army Officers to be convened at such places as the War Department may select, on the 1st day of March annually (except when that day comes on Sunday, in which case the examination will commence on the following Tuesday). The candidates who pass successfully shall be admitted to the Academy in the following June.

Candidates selected to fill the vacancies unprovided for at the examinations held in March, shall be instructed to report at West Point for mental and physical examination early in June. No candidate shall be examined at any other time, unless prevented from presenting himself by sickness, or some other unavoidable cause, in which case he shall be examined during the last week in August.

Immediately after reporting to the Adjutant for admission, and before receiving his warrant of appointment, the candidate is required to sign an engagement for service in the following form, in the presence of the Superintendent, or of some officer deputed by him:

"I, . . . . ., of the State (or Territory) of . . . ., aged . . . . years and . . . . months, do hereby engage (with the consent of my parent or guardian) that from the date of my admission as a Cadet of the United States Military Academy, I will serve in the Army of the United States for eight years, unless sooner discharged by competent authority."

In the presence of

.....

The candidate is then required to take and subscribe an oath or affirmation in the following form:

"I, . . . . ., do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and bear true allegiance to the National Government; that I will maintain the sovereignty of the United States, paramount to any and all allegiance, sovereignty, or fealty I may owe to any State or Country whatsoever; and that I will at all times obey the legal orders of my superior officers, and the rules and articles governing the Armies of the United States."

Sworn and subscribed, at....., this....day of.....  
eighteen hundred and....., before me.

\*Alternates have been appointed every year since 1877.

Qualifications.—The age for the admission of cadets to the Academy is between seventeen and twenty-two years. Candidates must be unmarried, at least five feet in height, free from any infectious or immoral disorder, and generally from any deformity, disease, or infirmity which may render them unfit for military service. They must be well versed in reading, in writing including orthography, in arithmetic, and have a knowledge of the elements of English grammar, of descriptive geography (particularly of our own country) and of the history of the United States.

#### CHARACTER OF EXAMINATIONS.\*

##### PHYSICAL EXAMINATION.

Every candidate is subjected to a rigid physical examination, and if there is found to exist in him any of the following causes of disqualification to such a degree as would immediately or at no very distant period impair his efficiency, he is rejected.

1. Feeble condition and unsound health from whatever cause; indications of former disease; glandular swellings, or other symptoms of scrofula.
2. Chronic cutaneous affections, especially of the scalp.
3. Severe injuries of the bones of the head; convulsions.

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\*It is suggested to all candidates for admission to the Military Academy that, before leaving their residence for the place designated, they should cause themselves to be thoroughly examined by a competent physician, and by a teacher or instructor in good standing. By such an examination any serious disqualification or deficiency in mental preparation would be revealed, and the candidate probably spared the expense and trouble of a useless journey and the mortification of rejection.

It should be understood that the informal examination herein recommended is solely for the convenience and benefit of the candidate himself, and can in no manner affect the decision of the official Examining Boards.

NOTE.—There being no provision whatever for the payment of the traveling expenses of either accepted or rejected candidates for admission, no candidate should fail to provide himself in advance with the means of returning to his home, in case of his rejection before either of the Examining Boards, as he may otherwise be put to considerable trouble, inconvenience, and even suffering on account of his destitute condition. If admitted, the money brought by him to meet such a contingency can be deposited with the treasurer on account of his equipment as a cadet, or returned to his friends.

4. Impaired vision, from whatever cause; inflammatory affections of the eyelids; immobility or irregularity of the iris; fistula lachrymalis, etc., etc.
5. Deafness; copious discharge from the ears.
6. Loss of many teeth, or the teeth generally unsound.
7. Impediment of speech.
8. Want of due capacity of the chest, and any other indication of a liability to a pulmonary disease.
9. Impaired or inadequate efficiency of one or both of the superior extremities on account of fractures, especially of the clavicle, contraction of a joint, deformity, etc., etc.
10. An unusual excurvature or incurvature of the spine.
11. Hernia.
12. A varicose state of the veins of the scrotum or the spermatic cord (when large), hydrocele, hemorrhoids, fistulas.
13. Impaired or inadequate efficiency of one or both of the inferior extremities on account of varicose veins, fractures, malformations (flat feet, etc.), lameness, contraction, unequal length, bunions, overlying or supernumary toes, etc.
14. Ulcers or unsound cicatrices of ulcers likely to break out afresh.

#### ACADEMICAL EXAMINATION.

Reading.—In Reading, candidates must be able to read understandingly, and with proper accent and emphasis.

Writing and Orthography.—In Writing and Orthography, they must be able, from dictation, to write sentences from standard pieces of English literature, both prose and poetry, sufficient in number to test their qualifications both in handwriting and orthography. They must also be able to write and spell correctly from dictation, a certain number of standard test words.

Arithmetic.—In Arithmetic; they must be able—

1st. To explain, accurately and clearly, its objects and the manner of writing and reading numbers—entire, fractional, compound or denominate.

2d. To perform with facility and accuracy the various operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of whole numbers, abstract, compound or denominate, giving the rule for each operation, with its reasons, and also for the different methods of proving the accuracy of the work.

3d. To explain the meaning of reduction—its different kinds—

its application to denominate numbers in reducing them from a higher to a lower denomination and the reverse, and to equivalent decimals, to give the rule for each case, and to apply readily these rules to practical examples of each kind.

4th. To explain the nature of prime numbers, and factors of a number—of a common divisor of two or more numbers, particularly of their greatest common divisor—with its use, and to give the rule; with its reasons, for obtaining it, also the meaning of a common multiple of several numbers, particularly of their least common multiple and its use, and to give the rule, with its reasons, for obtaining it and to apply each of these rules to examples.

5th. To explain the nature of fractions, common or vulgar, and decimal—to define the various kinds of fractions, with the distinguishing properties of each—to give all the rules for their reduction; particularly from mixed to improper and the reverse—from compound or complex to simple—to their lowest terms—to a common denominator—from common to decimal and the reverse; for their addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, with the reason for each change of rule, and to apply each rule to examples.

6th. To define the terms ratio and proportion—to give the properties of proportion and the rules and their reasons for stating and solving questions in both simple and compound proportion, or single and double rule of three, and to apply each rule to examples.

7th. The candidates must not only know the principles and rules referred to above, but they are required to possess such a thorough understanding of all the fundamental operations of arithmetic as will enable them to combine the various principles in the solution of any complex problem which can be solved by the methods of arithmetic. In other words, they must possess such a complete knowledge of arithmetic as will enable them to take up at once the higher branches of mathematics without further study of arithmetic.

8th. It is to be understood that the examination in these branches may be either written or oral, or partly written and partly oral—that the definitions and rules must be given fully and accurately, and that the work of all examples, whether upon the blackboard, slate or paper, must be written plainly and in full, and in such a manner as to show clearly the mode of solution.

The following examples and questions in Arithmetic are a few of those which have been used at past examinations. They are given in order to indicate more clearly what is required, but it

should be distinctly understood that entirely different ones are used each year.

Multiply 4.32 by .00012.

Explain the reason for placing the decimal point in the answer. [The rule for so doing is not the reason.]

Reduce  $5\frac{1}{2} + \frac{7\frac{1}{4}}{0.5} = 0.725$  to an equivalent decimal.

$$\frac{4 + 3.45}{2\frac{1}{2}}$$

Divide 3380321 by MDCCXCIX, and express the quotient by the Roman system of notation.

Change .013 to an equivalent fraction whose denominator is 135.

Find the greatest common divisor of  $26\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $28\frac{7}{8}$ , and  $29\frac{1}{6}$ .

How many men would be required to cultivate a field of  $2\frac{5}{8}$  acres in  $5\frac{1}{2}$  days of 10 hours each, if each man completed 77 yards in 9 hours?

Separate  $772\frac{2}{3}$  into three numbers, which shall be in the same proportion as  $2\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $1\frac{7}{10}$ ,  $1\frac{6}{8}$ .

5 cubic feet of gold weigh 98.20 times as much as a cubic foot of water; and 2 cubic feet of copper weigh 18 times as much as a cubic foot of water; how many cubic inches of copper will weigh as much as  $\frac{7}{8}$  of a cubic inch of gold?

Find the least common multiple for the numbers  $\frac{3}{4}$ , 2, 1, 5.25,  $\frac{5}{8}$ .

A wins 9 games out of 15 when playing against B, and 16 out of 25 when playing against C. How many games out of 118 should C win when playing against B?

A and B run a race, their rates of running being as 17 to 18. A runs  $2\frac{1}{3}$  miles in 16 minutes and 48 seconds, and B runs the entire distance in 34 minutes. What was the entire distance?

A and B can do a piece of work in 4 hours, A and C in  $3\frac{3}{8}$  hours, B and C in  $5\frac{1}{4}$  hours. In what time can A do it alone?

English shillings are coined from a metal which contains 37 parts of silver to 3 parts of alloy; one pound of this metal is coined into 66 shillings. The United States silver dollar weighs 412.5 grains, and consists of 9 parts of silver to 1 part of alloy. What fraction of the U. S. dollar will contain the same amount of silver as 1 English shilling?

Give the rules for reducing a decimal of a given denomination to integers of lower denomination.

What is the effect of dividing the denominator of a fraction by a whole number, and why?



Explain the difference between a common fraction and a decimal.

What is the effect of annexing a cipher to a decimal, and why?

If the same number be subtracted from both terms of an improper fraction, what will be the effect? Why.

Give the rule for reducing a common fraction to an equivalent decimal, and explain why the resulting fraction will be equal to the common fraction from which it is obtained.

Give the rule for dividing one decimal by another, and explain why the decimal point in the quotient is placed where the rule directs.

Define Reduction, and state the different kinds.

Grammar.—In English Grammar, the candidates must be able—

1st. To define the parts of speech, and give their classes and properties; to give inflections, including declension, conjugation and comparison; to give the corresponding masculine and feminine gender nouns; to give and apply the ordinary rules of syntax.

2d. To parse fully and correctly any ordinary sentence, omitting rules, declensions, comparisons and principal parts, but giving the subject of each verb, the governing word of each objective case, the word for which each pronoun stands or to which it refers, the words between which each preposition shows the relation, precisely what each conjunction connects, what each adjective and adverb qualifies or limits the construction of each infinitive, and, generally, showing a good knowledge of the function of each word in the sentence. Omissions will be taken to indicate ignorance.

3d. To correct in sentences or extracts any ordinary grammatical errors such as are mentioned and explained in ordinary grammars.

It is not required that any particular grammarian or text-book shall be followed; but rules, definitions, parsing and corrections must be in accordance with common usage and good sense. The examination may be written or oral, or both written and oral.

Geography.—Candidates will be required to pass a satisfactory examination, written or oral, or both, in Geography, particularly of our own country. To give a candidate a clear idea of what is required, the following synopsis is added to show the character and extent of the examination. Questions are likely to be asked involving knowledge of:

1st. Definitions of the geographical circles, of latitude, and longitude, of zones and of all the natural divisions of the earth's surface, as islands, seas, capes, etc.

2d. The continental areas and grand divisions of the water of the earth's surface.

3d. The grand divisions of the land—the large bodies of water which in part or wholly surround them.

Their principal mountains, location, direction, and extent, the capes from what parts they project and into what parts?

Their principal peninsulas, location, and by what waters they are embraced?

The parts connected by peninsulas, if any.

Their principal islands, location and surrounding waters.

The seas, gulfs, and bays, the coasts they indent, and the waters to which they are subordinate.

The straits, the lands they separate, and the waters they connect.

Their principal rivers, their sources, direction of flow, and the waters into which they empty.

Their principal lakes, location and extent.

4th. The political divisions of the grand divisions.

Their names, locations, boundaries, and capitals; general questions of the same character as indicated in the second section; made applicable to each of the countries of each of the grand divisions.

5th. The United States.

The candidate should be thoroughly informed as to its general features, configuration, location, and boundaries (both with respect to neighboring countries and latitude and longitude); its adjacent oceans, seas, bays, gulfs, sounds, straits, and islands; its mountain ranges, their location and extent; the sources, directions, and terminations of the important rivers and their principal tributaries; the lakes, and, in short, every geographical feature of the country as indicated above. The location and termination of important railroad lines and other means of communication from one part of the country to another should not be omitted.

The States and Territories are to be accurately located with respect to each other by their boundaries, and as to their order along the Atlantic Coast, the Gulf of Mexico, the Pacific Coast, the Northern frontier, the Mexican frontier, and the Mississippi, Missouri and Ohio Rivers.

The boundary and other large rivers of each State, as well as all other prominent geographical features should be known.

The names and locations of their capitals, and other important cities are likewise to be known.

In short, the knowledge should be so complete that a clear mental picture of the whole or any part of the United States is impressed on the mind of the candidate. More weight is attached to a knowledge of the geography of the United States than to that of all other countries combined.

History.—The candidate should make himself familiar with so much of the History of the United States as is contained in the ordinary school histories. The examination may be written or oral, or partly written and partly oral, and will usually consist of a series of questions similar to the following:

I. Name the earliest European settlements within the present limits of the United States—when, where and by whom made? When did the settlements made by other nations than the English come under the dominion of Great Britain, and of the United States?

II. What was the difference between the Royal, the Chartered and the Proprietary colonies? How many colonies were there originally in Massachusetts and Connecticut? When were they united? How many in Pennsylvania? When were they separated?

III. In what wars were the colonies engaged before the Revolution? What were the principal events and results of those of King William, Queen Anne, King George and the French and Indian?

IV. What were the remote and the immediate causes of the American Revolution? Explain the Navigation Act, Stamp Act, Writs of Assistance. When did the War of the Revolution properly begin? When, where and how did it end? Give the particulars of Arnold's treason? Who were the most prominent generals in this war? Name the most important battles and their results.

V. The Constitution of the United States—why and when was it formed? When was it adopted?

VI. Give the names of the Presidents of the United States in their order. Give the leading events of the administration of each one; for example, that of—

Washington.—Indian War; trouble with France; Jay's treaty; the whisky rebellion, etc.

Jefferson.—War with Tripoli; purchase of Louisiana; the embargo, etc.

Madison.—War of 1812; its causes; the principal battles on land and sea; peculiarity of the last battle; when ended, etc.

Monroe.—Indian War; cession of Florida, Missouri Compromise, etc.

Jackson.—Black Hawk and Seminole wars; the United States Bank; nullification, etc.

Polk.—The Mexican War; its causes; principal battles; results of it, etc

Pierce.—Repeal of Missouri Compromise; troubles in Kansas, etc.

Buchanan —Civil War; how begun, etc.

Lincoln.—War of the Rebellion; its causes; its results, social and political; explain doctrine of State Sovereignty; alienation between Northern and Southern States; doctrine of secession; give an account of principal battles.

Johnson.—Fourteenth Amendment; Tenure of Office Bill; Johnson's Impeachment.

Grant.—Fifteenth Amendment; Alabama Claims and Treaty of Washington; Electoral Commission.

#### ACADEMIC DUTIES.

The academic duties and exercises commence on the first of September and continue until the first of June. Examinations of the several classes are held in January and June, and, at the former, such of the new cadets as are found proficient in studies and have been correct in conduct are given the particular standing in their class to which their merits entitle them. After each examination, cadets found deficient in conduct or studies are discharged from the Academy, unless the Academic Board for special reasons in each case should otherwise recommend. Similar examinations are held every January and June during the four years comprising the course of studies

These examinations are very thorough, and require from the cadet a close and persevering attention to study, without evasion or slighting of any part of the course, as no relaxation of any kind can be made by the examiners.

Military Instruction.—From the termination of the examination in June to the end of August the cadets live in camp, engaged only in military duties and exercises and receiving practical military instruction.

Except in extreme cases, cadets are allowed but one leave of absence during the four years' course; as a rule the leave is granted at the end of the first two years' course of study.

## PAY OF CADETS.

The pay of a cadet is \$540 per year, to commence with his admission to the Academy, and is sufficient, with proper economy, for his support. No cadet is permitted to receive money, or any other supplies, from his parents, or from any person whomsoever, without the sanction of the Superintendent.

Each cadet must keep himself supplied with the following mentioned articles, viz.:

Two pairs of uniform shoes; \*one pair of overshoes (Arctic); \*six towels, face; \*two towels, bathing; one mattress; one pillow; \*two pillow-cases 35-in. by 45-in.; \*four sheets 10/4 by 6/4; \*two blankets (white); \*one comfortable or quilted bed cover; one wash bowl; \*one bottle of indelible ink; \*one clothes brush or whisk broom; \*one hair-brush; \*one tooth-brush; \*one nail-brush; \*one shaving-brush and mug; \*one shoe-brush; \*one razor; \*one razor strop; \*two pairs of white suspenders; \*six white shirts; \*two night shirts; \*six summer under-shirts; \*six winter under-shirts; \*six pairs of summer drawers; \*six pairs of winter drawers; \*six pairs of summer socks; \*six pairs of winter socks; \*six pocket handkerchiefs; \*six pairs of cuffs; twelve white linen collars; six pairs of white Berlin gloves; two sets of white belts; one chair; \*one pen knife; one account book; \*one trunk.

Candidates are authorized to bring with them the articles marked\*; they are however informed that such articles can be purchased at regulated prices from the Cadet Quartermaster's Department at West Point, after their arrival.

Cadets are required to wear the prescribed uniform. All articles of their uniform are of a designated pattern, and are sold to Cadets at West Point at regulated prices.

## EXPENSES OF CANDIDATES PRIOR TO ADMISSION.

The expenses of a candidate for board, washing, lights, &c., after he has reported and prior to admission, will be about \$10. Immediately after being admitted to the institution he must be provided with an outfit or uniform, the cost of which will be about \$90, making a total sum of \$100, which must be deposited with the Treasurer of the Academy before the candidate is admitted. It is best for a candidate to take with him no more money than will defray his traveling expenses, and for the parent or guardian to send to "The Treasurer of the U. S. Military Academy" the required deposit of \$100. Any

deviation from the rule as to the amount or manner of making the deposit must be explained in writing by the parent or guardian of the candidate to the Superintendent of the Academy.

#### ASSIGNMENT TO CORPS AFTER GRADUATION.

The attention of applicants and candidates is called to the following provisions of the Act of Congress approved May 17, 1886, to regulate the promotion of graduates of the United States Military Academy:

"That when any cadet of the United States Military Academy has gone through all its classes and received a regular diploma from the Academic Staff, he may be promoted and commissioned as a second lieutenant in any arm or corps of the army in which there may be a vacancy and the duties of which he may have been judged competent to perform; and in case there shall not at the time be a vacancy in such arm or corps, he may, at the discretion of the President, be promoted and commissioned in it as an additional second lieutenant, with the usual pay and allowances of a second lieutenant, until a vacancy shall happen."

#### GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS.

A sound body and constitution, suitable preparation, good natural capacity, an aptitude for study, industrious habits, perseverance, and obedient and orderly disposition, and a correct moral deportment are such essential qualifications that candidates knowingly deficient in any of these respects, should not, as many do, subject themselves and their friends to the chances of future mortification and disappointment by accepting appointments at the Academy and entering upon a career which they cannot successfully pursue.

#### CANDIDATES FAILING.

No cadet who is reported as deficient, in either conduct or studies, and recommended to be discharged from the Academy, shall, unless upon recommendation of the Academic Board, be returned or reappointed or be appointed to any place in the army before his class shall have left the Academy and received their commissions.—[Section 1325, Revised Statutes United States.]

## INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES.\*

Each candidate on arrival at the Military Academy will—

1. On reporting to the Adjutant present for examination his letter of appointment. Subsequently he will be called upon to—

2. Register.

(I.) Name, clearly and in full; age (in years and months); place of residence (postoffice, county and state); district from which appointed; where born (state or territory); name and address of parents or guardian; date of birth.

(II.) Are both parents living, nationality of each, etc.; profession or occupation of parent or guardian; circumstances of parent or guardian, whether affluent, moderate, reduced, or indigent; whether candidate is from the country, town or city; appointment, how obtained, whether by competitive examination or direct appointment; if by competitive examination, how many competitors (including self); also whether he has ever previously reported as a candidate at the Military Academy.

Time in years and months of attendance at .....	{	Public School . . . . .	Common School.
			High School.
		Private School . . . . .	Common School.
			High School.
		Normal School or Academy.	
		College.	
		Time employed in private study within the last five years.	
		Time engaged as teacher.	

3. The candidate will then be sent under charge of an orderly to the Medical Board for physical examination, and upon returning will present to the Adjutant the report of the same. Should this be satisfactory—

4. The candidate will then be sent to the Treasurer to deposit all the funds in his possession. The memorandum received from the Treasurer will be presented to the adjutant.

5. The candidate will then be sent to the cadet barracks to report to the officer in charge of new cadets.

6. It is important that the data called for in registering be given truthfully and as accurately as possible. This information, so far as it relates to the individual candidates, is not for publication, these records being considered confidential.

\*This is handed to candidates in the Adjutant's office after their arrival at West Point.







TABLE SHOWING DISPOSITION OF CANDIDATES — *Continued.*

Year Reported.	Appointed.	Reported.	Admitted.	GRADUATED.							Per Cent of Reported Admitted.	Per Cent of Reported Graduated.	Per Cent of Admitted Graduated.	Alternates Passed for Whom no Vacancies Existed.	Year Reported.	
				At Academy.												
				One Year.	Two Years.	Three Years.	Four Years.	Five Years.	Six Years.	Seven Years.						Total.
For'd.			6,007	60	59	47	2,336	489	29	4	3,024			50	7	For'd
1880	139	115	73				34	3			37	63	32	50	6	1880
1	200	152	85				36	3			48	56	32	50	3	1
2	216	192	129				70	5			75	67	39	58	8	2
3	235	209	141				59	8			67	67	34	48	9	3
4	178	155	100				36	6			42	65	27	42	4	4
5	171	143	95				42	3			45	66	31	47	6	5
6	215	190	128				51	11			62	67	33	48	10	6
7	256	210	127				54	11			65	60	31	51	9	7
8	210	181	101				51	6			57	55	31	56	6	8
9	231	196	96				45	11	1		57	49	29	60	7	9
1890	198	175	81				43	8			51	46	29	63	11	1890
1	209	161	97				43	9			52	60	32	54	9	1
2	302	258	114	6			64				64	44			15	2
3	326	268	108	68							40				10	3
4	303	258	101	67							39				12	4
5	327	282	105	80							37				17	5
6	308	248	110	110							44				18	6
Total			7,798	331	60	59	47	2,964	577	30	4	3,741		48	167	Total

## COURSE OF STUDY AND BOOKS USED AT THE MILITARY ACADEMY.†

## FIRST YEAR.—FOURTH CLASS.

Mathematics: Hours of recitation,  $334\frac{1}{2}$ ; hours of study, 669; total hours,  $1,003\frac{1}{2}$ . Text books: Davies' Elements of Algebra, Davies' Legendre's Geometry, Ludlow's Elements of Trigonometry, Davies' Surveying, Church's Analytical Geometry, Ludlow's Logarithmic Tables.\*

Modern Languages: Hours of recitation, 185; hours of study 376; total hours, 555. Text books: Williams' Composition and Rhetoric, Abbott's How to Write Clearly, Meikeljohn's English Language, Smith's Synonyms Discriminated,\* Roget's Thesaurus of English Words,\* Webster's Dictionary,\* De Peiffer's French Pronunciation, Keetels' Analytical and Practical French Grammar, Castarede's Treatise on the Conjugation of French Verbs, Roemer's Cours de Lecture et de Traduction Vol. I., Bocher's College Series of French Plays, Vol. II., Spiers' and Surenne's French Pronouncing Dictionary.\*

Drill Regulations, U. S. Army: Practical instruction, infantry 46 hours; artillery, 35 hours; total hours, 81. Infantry, Practical Instruction in the Schools of the Soldier, Company and Battalion; Siege and Light Artillery, Practical Instruction in the School of the Cannoneer. Blunt's Firing Regulations for Small Arms.\*

Use of Sword, etc.: Practical instruction,  $147\frac{3}{4}$  hours. Instruction in Fencing and Bayonet Exercise, and Military Engineering.

## SECOND YEAR.—THIRD CLASS.

Mathematics: Hours of recitation,  $334\frac{1}{2}$ ; hours of study, 669; total hours,  $1,003\frac{1}{2}$ . Text books: Church's Analytical Geometry, Church's Descriptive Geometry, with its application to Spherical Projections, Shades, Shadows and Perspective, Bass' Differential Calculus, Church's Integral Calculus, Johnson's Treatise on the Method of Least Squares.

Modern Languages: Hours of recitation, 223; hours of study, 446; total hours, 669. Text books: Borel's Grammaire Francaise, Hennequin's Lessons in Idiomatic French, Revue Militaire de l'Etranger, the Weekly Figaro, Edgren's Compendious French Grammar, De Peiffer's French Pronunciation,\* Spiers' and Surenne's French Pronouncing Dictionary,\* Monsanto and Languellier's Spanish Gram-

†Revised to June 1, 1896. \*Books of reference.

mar, Knapp's Spanish Grammar, Mantilla's Spanish Reader No. 3, Knapp's Spanish Reader, Eco de Madrid, Seoane's Neumann and Baretto's Spanish Dictionary.\*

Drawing: Hours of recitation, 288. Constructive problems in Plane Geometry, point paths, topography and plotting of surveys with lead pencil, pen and ink, and colors, construction of the various problems in Descriptive Geometry, shades and shadows, and linear perspective and isometric projections, practical surveying in the field. Reed's Topographical Drawing and Sketching, including Photography Applied to Surveying.\*

Drill Regulations, U. S. Army: Practical instruction, infantry 46 hours; artillery, 35 hours; cavalry, 46 hours; total hours, 127. Infantry, practical instruction in the schools of the soldier, company and battalion; light artillery, practical instruction in the school of the cannoneer; cavalry, practical instruction in the school of the trooper. Blunt's Firing Regulations for Small Arms.\*

Practical Military Engineering: Practical work in July and August. Practical instruction in the construction of ponton, spar and trestle bridges.

#### THIRD YEAR.—SECOND CLASS.

Natural and Experimental Philosophy: Hours of recitation, 334½ hours; hours of study, 669; total hours, 1,003½. Text books: Michie's Analytical Mechanics, Michie and Harlow's Practical Astronomy, Young's General Astronomy, Michie's Elements of Wave Motion Relating to Sound and Light.

Chemistry, Mineralogy and Geology: Hours of recitation, 188½; hours of study, 377; total hours, 565½. Text books: Bloxam's Chemistry (8th Edition), Tillman's Elementary Lessons in Heat (2d Edition), Tillman's Essential Principles of Chemistry, Tracy's Anatomy, Physiology and Hygiene, Thompson's Elementary Lessons in Electricity and Magnetism (new and revised edition), Tillman's Elementary Text Book of Mineralogy, LeConte's Elements of Geology (3d Edition).

Drawing: Hours of recitation, 185. Free hand drawing and landscape in black and white, mechanical and architectural drawing in ink and colors, constructive details, ordnance constructions. Reed's Topographical Drawing and Sketching, including Photography Applied to Surveying.\*

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\*Books of reference.

Drill Regulations, U. S. Army: Hours of recitation,  $18\frac{1}{2}$ ; hours of study, 37. Practical instruction: Infantry, 41 hours; artillery,  $17\frac{1}{2}$  hours; cavalry,  $61\frac{1}{2}$  hours; total hours,  $175\frac{1}{2}$ . Text books: United States Army Artillery Drill Regulations, Tidball's Manual of Heavy Artillery Service, U. S. A., United States Army Cavalry Drill Regulations, United States Army Infantry Drill Regulations. Infantry, practical instruction in the schools of the soldier, company and battalion; sea coast artillery, practical instruction in the school of the cannoneer; cavalry, practical instruction in the schools of the trooper, troop and squadron.

Practical Military Engineering: Practical instruction,  $17\frac{1}{2}$  hours. Practical instruction in the construction of ponton bridges, in laying gun platforms, and in the construction of revetments and obstacles; practical and theoretical instruction in military signaling.

#### FOURTH YEAR.—FIRST CLASS.

Civil and Military Engineering and Science of War: Hours of recitation,  $334\frac{1}{2}$ ; hours of study, 669; total hours,  $1,003\frac{1}{2}$ . Text books: Wheeler's Civil Engineering, Wheeler's Field Fortifications, Mercur's Mahan's Permanent Fortifications (Edition of 1887), Mercur's Attack of Fortified Places, Mercur's Elements of the Art of War, Mahan's Stereotomy.

Modern Languages: Hours of recitation,  $50\frac{1}{2}$ ; hours of study, 101; total hours,  $151\frac{1}{2}$ . Text books; Knapp's Spanish Grammar, Knapp's Spanish Readings, Seoane's Neumann and Baretti's Dictionary.\*

Law: Hours of recitation,  $92\frac{1}{2}$ ; hours of study, 185; total hours,  $277\frac{1}{2}$ . Text books: Davis's International Law, Cooley's General Principles of Constitutional Law in the United States, Winthrop's Abridgment of Military Law, General Orders No. 100, A. G. O., 1863.

History, Geography and Ethics: Hours of recitation, 42; hours of study, 82; total hours, 126. Text books: Swinton's Outlines of the World's History, Labberton's New Historical Atlas and General History.\*

Practical Military Engineering. Hours of practical instruction,  $24\frac{1}{2}$ . Practical instruction in the construction of ponton, trestle and spar bridges, in the preparation and application of siege materials, and in laying out field and siege works; practical instruction in military reconnaissances on foot and mounted, in field telegraphy, night signaling, and the use of the heliograph. Ernst's Manual of Practical Military Engineering.\*

\*Books of reference.

Natural and Experimental Philosophy. Practical instruction in camp. Practical instruction in astronomy.

Drill regulations, U. S Army, Hours of instruction, infantry 36 hours; artillery, 17½ hours; cavalry, 101½ hours; total hours, 277½. Infantry, practical instruction in the schools of the soldier, company and battalion; cavalry, practical instruction in the schools of the trooper, troop and squadron; artillery, practical instruction in the school of the battery.

Ordnance and Gunnery: Hours of recitation, 92¾; hours of study, 185; total hours, 277¾. Text books: Bruff's Gunpowder and Interior Ballistics, Bruff's Ordnance and Gunnery. Ingall's System of Exterior Ballistics.

### CLASS RANK OR STANDING.

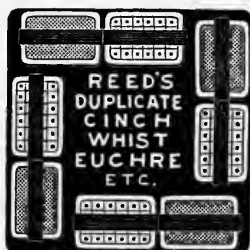
Class rank or standing is determined by adding together the standing of each cadet in all of the studies he has been examined in and in discipline, and then the cadet having the highest figure of general merit is first in class rank the next second and so on, as indicated in the following table, to-wit.

Class Rank.	CADETS.	MERIT IN														
		Maximum in each branch.	400	75	150	300	225	100	125	300	75	75	150	125	45	200
		Mathematics.	English.	French.	Natural and Experimental Philosophy	Chem., Chemical Phys., Mineral. and Geol.	Drill Regulations	Drawing.	Civil and Military Engineering.	History.	Spanish.	Law.	Ordnance and Gunnery,	Practical Military Engineering.	Discipline.	General Merit.



# Reed's Four Deck Boards for

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CLUB AND  
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GAMES OF  
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DUPLICATE,  
CLUB AND  
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GAMES OF  
**EUCHRE**

Two decks on each side.

DUPLICATE, CLUB AND CLUB DUPLICATE  
**WHIST**

And Other Games. All Played with Reed Boards.

The cut shows one side of a board with two decks of cards dealt into four hands ready to play. Each board is arranged for four decks, two on a side, and it has Rules for **DUPLICATE AND PROGRESSIVE GAMES** PRINTED ON IT.

The boards are eleven inches square, cloth bound, light and strong, and they are *the only boards made to be used*

**FOR PLAYING MORE THAN ONE GAME.**

Hence they are *the cheapest* boards to buy.

Four boards make a set, but

**ANY NUMBER OF BOARDS MAY BE USED.**

The  $\frac{1}{2}$  Sets,  $\frac{3}{4}$  Sets and Sets, are each packed

**IN A HANDSOME CLOTH BOX**

with a set of chips and a package of score sheets (one side ruled for Duplicate Games and the other for Progressive Games.)

\$1.25 per Board; \$2.25 per Board with ( 4 decks) Cards.

3.50 per  $\frac{1}{2}$  Set; 5.50 per  $\frac{1}{2}$  Set with ( 8 decks) Cards.

4.75 per  $\frac{3}{4}$  Set; 7.75 per  $\frac{3}{4}$  Set with (12 decks) Cards.

6.00 per Set; 10.00 per Set with (16 decks) Cards.

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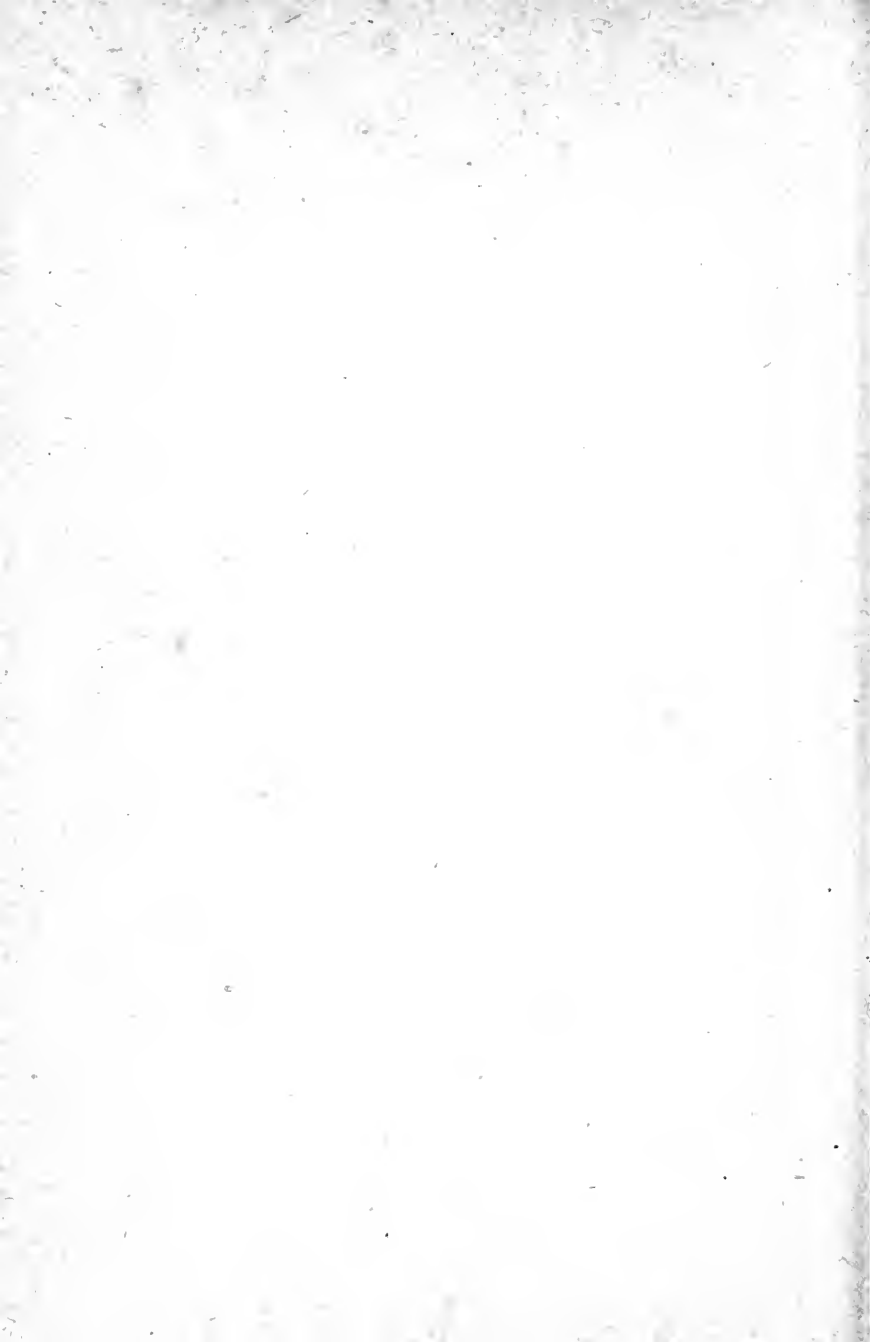
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